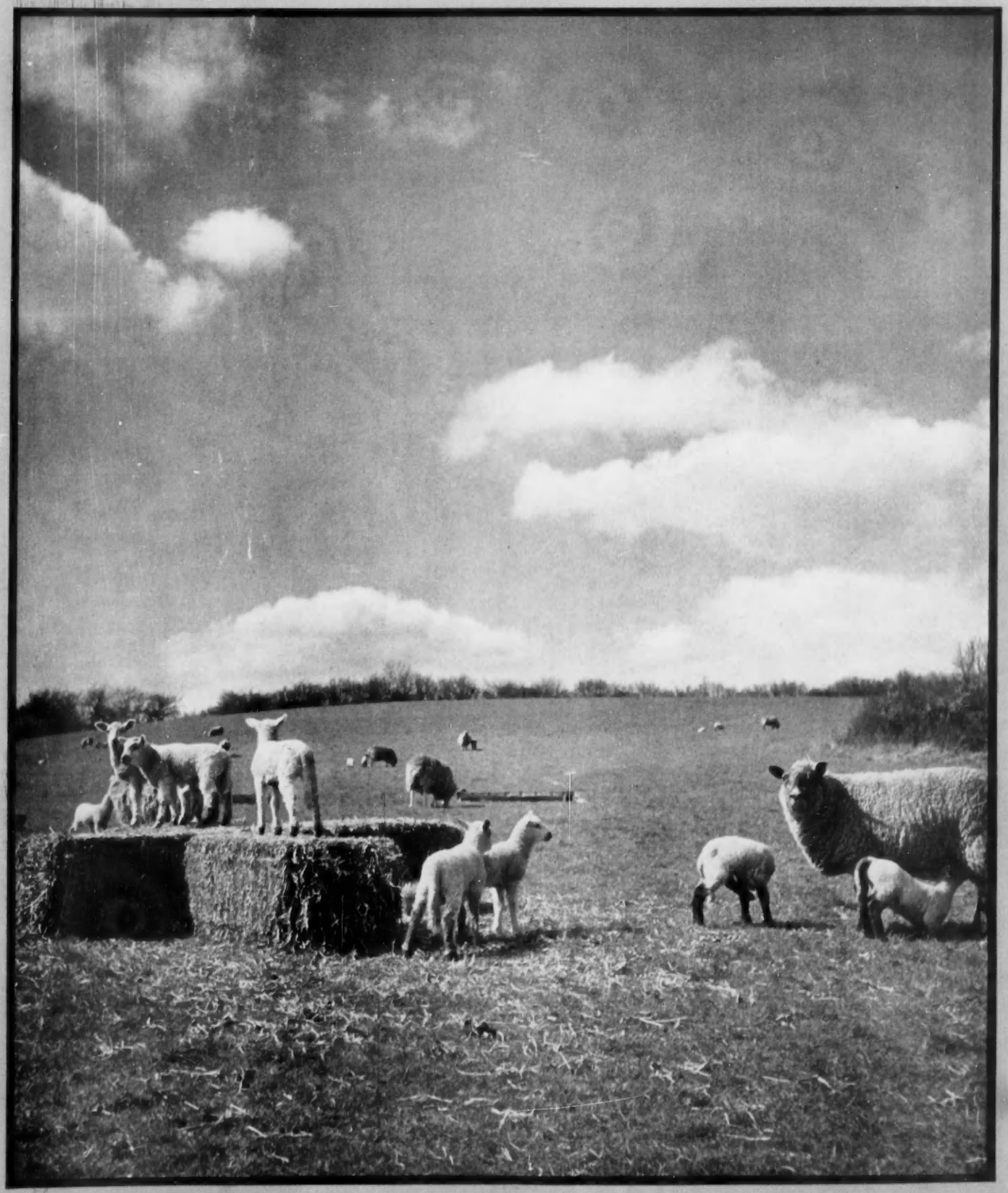
HOW RIVERS GROW By ALEX J. BOYD

COUNTRY LIFE

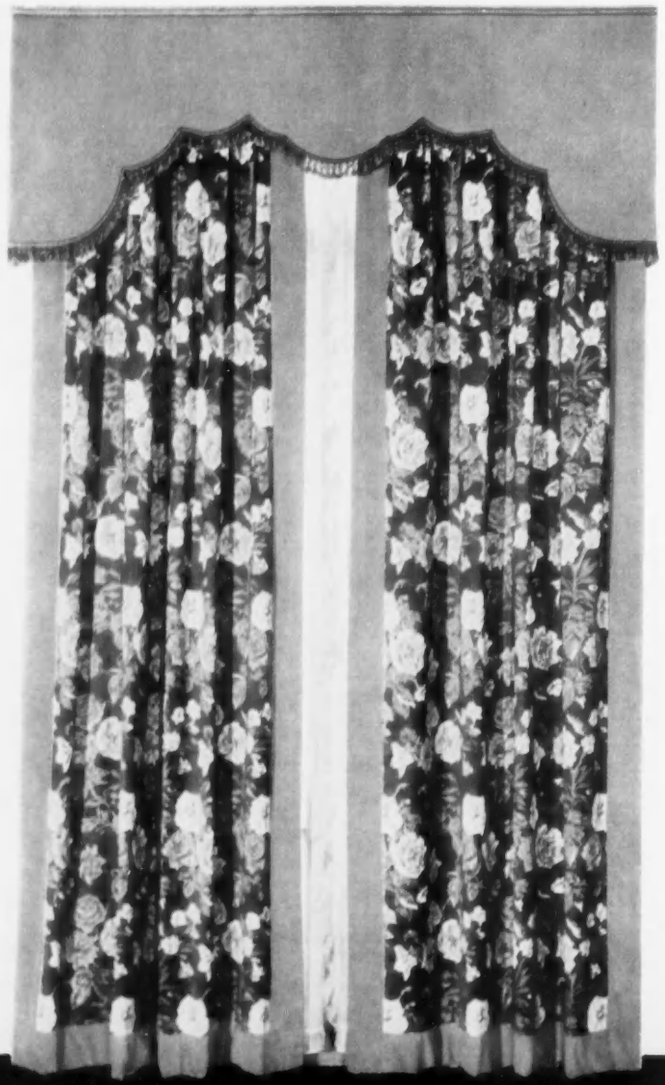
On Sale Thursday
MARCH 8, 1956

TWO SHILLINGS



LAMBING TIME: SAUNDERTON, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

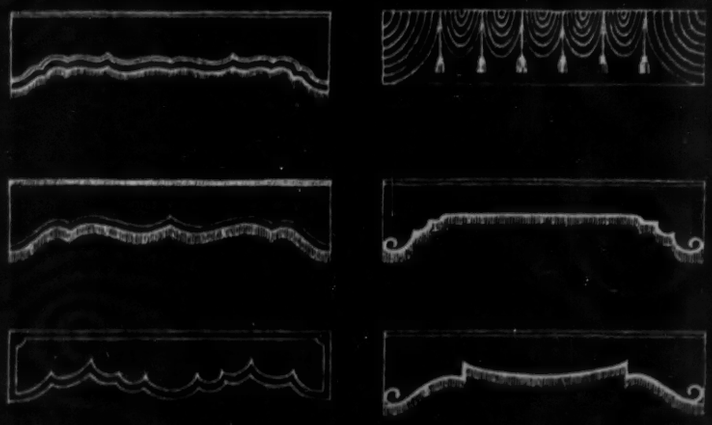
Ronald Goodearl



Ways with windows

We've everything to transform, enhance and beautify your windows: fresh ideas to put before you, long experience to advise you, a wealth of fabrics and well-designed pelmets to inspire you—and our own workroom with skilled staff to make up superlatively for you. Here, rose-covered satin curtains, bordered with velvet to match the elegantly shaped pelmet. The satin also available with dove grey or terra cotta ground. 48" wide **37/9 yard**

HARVEY NICHOLS



Six more pelmet plans from a wide choice to be seen in our second floor furnishing department. Advice and estimates for curtains, swag draperies and pelmets are given free

HARVEY NICHOLS & CO LTD OF KNIGHTSBRIDGE AND BOURNEMOUTH

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXIX No. 3086 MARCH 8, 1956

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

By direction of the Exors. of the late Lord Courthope, P.C., M.C., T.D.

THE WHILIGH ESTATE—ABOUT 1,230 ACRES

KENT—SUSSEX BORDERS

9 DAIRY, MIXED AND HOP HOLDINGS

ACCOMMODATION LAND AND NUMEROUS COTTAGES

All let and producing about £2,025 per annum.

80 Acre Dairy Farm and 25 Acre Hop and Stock Farm. 70 Acres of Mixed Woodlands.

With Vacant Possession.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION IN THE SPRING

Land Agents: Messrs. R. H. & R. W. CLUTTON, 92, High Street, East Grinstead (Tel. 3933).
Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

SOUTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Adjoining Burnham Beeches Golf Course. Farnham Common 1 mile. London 22 miles.

LEYS FARM, EAST BURNHAM

DELIGHTFUL PERIOD HOUSE skilfully restored and modernised, in excellent order and extremely well-equipped.

2 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main water and electricity.

FINE RANGES OF BUILDINGS

Extensive Model Piggeries. Bungalow. 60 acres of woodland.

ABOUT 165 ACRES

Vacant possession.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION at a date to be announced (unless previously sold privately).

Solicitors: Messrs. WITHERS & CO., Howard House, 4, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Auctioneers: Messrs. A. C. FROST & CO., Estate Offices, Farnham Common, Bucks. Tel. 700; and at Burnham, Beaconsfield, Gerrards Cross and Windsor; and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

THE FLEMING DOWNEND ESTATE. 1,788 ACRES

ISLE OF WIGHT. NEWPORT 3 MILES

An Agricultural Investment.

5 FARMS FROM 394 TO 170 ACRES

353 Acres of Woodland (let). Gravel Pit, Chalk Pit and 4 Holdings

PRODUCING A TOTAL RENTAL OF £2,342 10s. 3d. PER ANNUM

69 ACRES IN HAND

FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR BY AUCTION LATER

Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. PINK & ARNOLD, Wickham, Fareham, Hants., and at Winchester. Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

SUSSEX. BETWEEN HORSHAM AND PETWORTH

WEPHURST PARK, WISBOROUGH GREEN

An Exceptional small Residential and Agricultural Property.

445 ACRES

(131 acres in hand)

CHARMING QUEEN ANNE HOUSE WITH BEAUTIFUL VIEWS

4 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, complete central heating. Main electricity and water.

Garage for 4. Five Cottages.

Home farm buildings.

Charming gardens and areas of woodlands.

Also a Capital T. T. and Attested Dairy Farm with house, cottage and first-rate buildings (let £425 per annum).

FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR AUCTION LATER

Offers for the House and Lands in hand only, will be submitted.

Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

MAYfair 3771 (15 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1
HEREFORD OFFICE: 22 HIGH TOWN (Tel. 5160)

Telegrams: "Galleries, Wesdo, London"

JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF

8, HANOVER STREET, LONDON, W.1 MAYFAIR 3316-7

Also at CIRENCESTER, NORTHAMPTON, YORK, YEOVIL, CHICHESTER, CHESTER, NEWMARKET AND DUBLIN

WEST SUSSEX—CHICHESTER HARBOUR

Wonderful views. Water frontage. Private jetty.

THE RECENTLY MODERNISED QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE

COURTS FARMHOUSE, West Wittering

Containing hall, cloaks, 3 reception, master suite with bathroom, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, model kitchen with Aga.

Oil-fired central heating. Main electricity and water.

STAFF FLAT AND COTTAGE

Delightful grounds with 4 paddocks, in all

APPROXIMATELY 46 ACRES

BY AUCTION (unless previously sold), **AS A WHOLE OR IN 5 LOTS, ON MARCH 21, 1956.**

Solicitors: Messrs. **BARFIELD & BARFIELD,** Danes Inn House, London, W.C.2.

Auctioneers: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 37, South Street, Chichester. Tel. 2633/4.

HEREFORDSHIRE

4 miles Monmouth, 6 miles Ross-on-Wye.

LOT 1—WITH VACANT POSSESSION

THE ATTRACTIVE GABLED MEDIUM-SIZED RESIDENCE

"KILDOWARD," WHITCHURCH

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, domestic offices. Garage and other outbuildings. Pleasant grounds, **1½ ACRES.**

Main electric light and power. Council water shortly available.

LOT 2—SUBJECT TO TENANCY

A STONE-BUILT AND TILED 4-ROOMED COTTAGE with 4 acres of land, let on a yearly tenancy at £30 per annum.

AUCTION (unless sold) **AS A WHOLE OR IN LOTS, ON APRIL 6, AT MONMOUTH.**

Joint Auctioneers: RENNIE, TAYLOR & TILL, Monmouth (Tel. 16); **JACKSON-STOPS,** Cirencester (Tel. 334/5).

Solicitors: Messrs. **WALKER, MARTINEAU & CO.,** 10-11, Gray's Inn Square, London, W.C.1.

SURREY—SUSSEX BORDERS

Rural position on outskirts of old-world village. Main-line station 3 miles. Godalming 7 miles, Guildford market town 10 miles.

An excellent T.T. Dairy, Stock, Pig and Poultry Holding.

CORNER FARM, CHIDDINGFOLD

Charming 17th-century House, in first-class order and fully modernised.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, 5 bedrooms (3 with basins), 2 well-fitted bathrooms, compact offices. *Main electricity and water. Central heating. Modern drainage.* GARAGE, OUT-BUILDINGS. Delightful, easily maintained garden. **2 superior Cottages** with 3/4 bedrooms and fitted electricity and water. Service flat. **Excellent farm buildings,** including T.T. cowhouse and good ranges of piggeries. Well farmed pasture and arable land, about **110 ACRES.**

FOR SALE, with possession, **BY AUCTION, AS A WHOLE OR IN LOTS** (unless sold privately), **on TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1956, AT THE RED LION HOTEL, GUILDFORD,** at 3 p.m.

Auctioneers: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1 (MAYfair 3316).

Solicitors: Messrs. **STEVENS & BOLTON,** 6, High Street, Alton, Hants (Tel. Alton 3216).

CIRENCESTER (4 MILES) CHELTENHAM (12 MILES)

A VERY WELL MODERNISED COTSWOLD COTTAGE

In excellent order. Unexpectedly for sale.

2 SITTING ROOMS, 3 BEDROOMS, FIRST-RATE BATHROOM

SMALL GARDEN WITH GARAGE SPACE

Main electricity. Estate water.

FITTED CARPETS, CURTAINS AND OTHER FURNISHINGS INCLUDED

EARLY SALE DESIRED

as Vendor has purchased another property.

Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS, Dollar Street House, Cirencester. Folio 14,249.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

AT A LOW RESERVE TO ASSURE A SALE

THE OLD VICARAGE

MARKET LAVINGTON, WILTSHIRE

Attractive Freehold Property equally suited for private occupation or development.

RESIDENCE contains 3/4 reception rooms, 7 bed and dressing rooms and 2 bathrooms. Garages, outbuildings and stabling. *Main electricity and water.* Gardens, grounds and 2 pasture enclosures, in all about **5 ACRES.**

COTTAGE with shop and main-road frontage.

Possession of the main portion.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION (unless sold privately) **AS A WHOLE OR IN 3 LOTS, ON APRIL 19, 1956.**

Full particulars from the Auctioneers, JACKSON-STOPS, Dollar Street House, Cirencester (Tel. 334/5); **Solicitors,** Messrs. **BIRCH, CULLIMORE AND CO.,** White Friars, Chester (Tel. 21066).

SOMERSET—DEVON BORDERS

TAUNTON 12 MILES

A GENTLEMAN'S FARMING ESTATE OF 110 ACRES

WITH 2 MILES OF TROUT FISHING

TUDOR HOUSE WITH A FEW GOOD-SIZED ROOMS—3 RECEPTION, 4 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS

3 COTTAGES

SELF-CONTAINED MAISONETTE

EXCELLENT RANGE OF T.T. FARM BUILDINGS

MAIN ELECTRICITY

PRODUCTIVE RIVERSIDE PASTURES AND ARABLE—**110 ACRES**

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION £16,000

Apply, JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 30, Hendford, Yeovil (Tel. 1066).

NEAR

MALMESBURY, KEMBLE AND CIRENCESTER

A DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY HOUSE WITH 6 ACRES

5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, domestic offices.

Main electric light and power. Excellent private water supply. Central heating. Janitor boiler.

COTTAGE

3 bedrooms, bathroom, etc.

5 LOOSE BOXES

GARAGE (2)

CHARMING GARDEN

THE WHOLE IN IMMACULATE ORDER

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Joint Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester, and Messrs. **HOBBS & CHAMBERS,** Cirencester.

NORTH WILTSHIRE

Kemble 4½ miles.

FINE OLD HOUSE

3 SITTING ROOMS, 5 BEDROOMS

STAFF QUARTERS, COTTAGE, STABLING

MAIN LIGHT AND WATER

£3,950 RECENTLY RE-DECORATED

JACKSON-STOPS, Dollar Street House, Cirencester. Folio 14,369.

HYDE PARK 4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

29b, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.1

COOKHAM DEAN

On high ground with lovely unspoilt views.
A Modern House of Character

Well-planned and fitted, compact and easily run with 3 reception, 4-5 bedrooms (3 with basins), bathroom, shower room. Main water and electricity.
Central heating with Janitor boiler. 2 Garages. Delightful matured garden, orchard, paddock and woodland.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 2 ACRES.
Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,872)

BUCKS 22 MILES LONDON

Near the station and a frequent bus service, and convenient for Maidenhead and Slough.

A CHARMING SMALL PROPERTY
Recently converted from an old stable block and in first-class condition.
Hall, 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.
Main electricity and water. Large garage.
Secluded and well laid out garden.
RATEABLE VALUE £24. FREEHOLD ONLY £4,850
Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,891)

For Sale by Private Treaty

WYE FISHING

BEING THE EXCLUSIVE FISHING RIGHTS OF THE WELL-KNOWN

ROCKLANDS BEAT

ONE MILE, OF HIGHLY PRproductive WATER
View by appointment only.
Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. W. H. COOKE & ARKWRIGHT, Midland Bank Chambers, Hereford, and Messrs. OSBORN AND MERCER, as above.

SUFFOLK AND ESSEX BORDER

A Lovely Old Elizabethan House standing in Park-like surroundings

Lounge hall (now used as a chapel), 4 reception, 17 bedrooms, 3 baths. Central heating. Main electricity.
3 COTTAGES (2 LET). FINE GARAGE AND STABLE BLOCK
Well timbered grounds, walled kitchen garden and enclosures of pasture and arable, in all **about 94 acres** (about 9 acres in hand).
MODERATE PRICE FOR QUICK SALE
Sole Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,928)

4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1
REGENT 1184 (3 lines)

NICHOLAS

(ESTABLISHED 1882)

1, STATION ROAD, READING
READING 54055 (3 lines)

KENT

Between Canterbury and Whitstable.
A unique and picturesque country house cleverly converted from two 15th-century Oast Houses (in a charming position with lovely views)

8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. *All main services.* 2 garages. Attractive small garden.
Messrs. NICHOLAS (London Office).

OXFORDSHIRE

Between Henley (15 miles) and Oxford (9 miles).

A LOVELY AND SYMPATHETICALLY RESTORED 16th-CENTURY VILLAGE HOUSE with high ceilings and light, well-proportioned rooms. 4 principal and 2 secondary bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, modern bathroom and kitchen. *Main services.* Double garage and small garden. **FREEHOLD £6,000 OR OFFER.**
Further details apply Messrs. NICHOLAS (London Office).

BERKSHIRE

A DELIGHTFUL OLD-WORLD COTTAGE

In BRAY-ON-THAMES and about 1 mile from Maidenhead Station.

3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms arranged in suites, 3 reception rooms. *All main services.* Large garage and small easily maintained garden. **FREEHOLD £6,500**
Agents: Messrs. NICHOLAS (London Office).

3, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

GROsvenor 1032-33-34

EAST SUSSEX

In small Market Town, 16 miles from the Coast.

DELIGHTFUL OLD SUSSEX FARMHOUSE IN A PLEASANT POSITION
4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms.
All main services. Part central heating.
GARAGE. **NEARLY 1 ACRE**
VACANT POSSESSION. FREEHOLD £5,000

BUCKS 40 MINUTES PADDINGTON

Beautiful high position in lovely country.
PERFECT MEDIUM-SIZED HOUSE with all conveniences. 6 principal bed and dressing rooms, 3 baths and staff accommodation (staff available). Fine lounge and 3 reception rooms. Garage and charming grounds.
20 Gns. p.w., inc. wages of gardener.
(Open to offer for long let.)

WANTED TO PURCHASE

In the Home Counties, south or south-west preferred, especially around Horsham, Lewes, Haywards Heath or Petersfield.
A PERIOD or MODERN HOUSE OF CHARACTER 5-6 bedrooms, 2 bath., 3 reception. Main services and central heating. Cottage preferred but not essential, and some land, say **5-10 ACRES. PRICE UP TO £10,000**
Full details and photographs to R.E.B., c/o RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

URGENTLY WANTED

Bucks (Amersham district) or Surrey.
A WELL-APPOINTED HOUSE, PREFERABLY GEORGIAN STYLE
For daily reach. 5-6 bed., 2 bath., 3 reception, good offices.
MAIN SERVICES. GARAGE. **1 TO 3 ACRES**
UP TO £12,000 PAID FOR SUITABLE PROPERTY

WEST SUSSEX, Nr. PULBOROUGH

CHARMING SMALL PERIOD HOUSE WITH T.T. DAIRY FARM OF 108 ACRES
Pleasant rural setting. 3 miles main line station. *Main electricity and water.* Garage. Double cottage (let). Easily maintained gardens. Small lake and stream.
Vacant possession of house and 2½ acres. Farm let at £105 p.a. FREEHOLD £7,500 or the house and 2½ acres only £4,750.

BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS

LONDON AND OXTED YORK NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE EDINBURGH

PRACTICAL FARMING • ESTATE MANAGEMENT

AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

COVERS

DIRECT FARM MANAGEMENT of lands in hand. **PURCHASE AND SALE** of Pedigree and Commercial Livestock.

TAXATION, including Annual Stocktaking Valuations.

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, Repair, Adaption and Improvement of existing buildings, from practical experience.

FORESTRY, Care of Woodlands. Timber Valuations. **LAND RECLAMATION**

and

COST ACCOUNTING to promote economic efficiency.

Head Office:

1, BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.1. Telephone: VICtoria 3012.

Branches at 129, Mount Street, Berkeley Square, W.1, York, Newcastle, Edinburgh and Oxted, Surrey.

HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

HYDe Park 8222 (20 lines) Telegrams: "Selanlet," Piccy, London.

A SHOWPLACE 16 MILES WEST OF TOWN

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

LOVELY RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER IN FINE SITUATION

Beautifully appointed. All modern comforts.

CENTRAL HEATING. Company's services.

Drive approach. Hall, cloakroom, 4 reception rooms, 6 main bedrooms (fitted h. and c.), 3 bathrooms, 3 staff bedrooms and bathroom and excellent offices.

Oak beams, floors and joinery.

Garage for 4 cars.

Useful buildings.

CHARMING GROUNDS

with excellent swimming pool, hard tennis court, productive kitchen garden, grass and woodland, in all about

10 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED BY

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (B.49750)

KENT. LOVELY BIDDENDEN DISTRICT

20 miles from the coast.

ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD COUNTRY RESIDENCE

with horticultural interests and woodlands. Well planned and beautifully fitted. 3 reception, sun room, 5 best bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms.

STAFF WING

Main electric light. Central heating, etc.

GARAGE FOR 3

GOOD COTTAGE

USEFUL BUILDINGS.

Lovely gardens, 20 acres of early **well-stocked commercial market gardens,** orchard, arable and woodland.

IN ALL ABOUT 100 ACRES. OR WOULD BE SOLD WITH LESS LAND

NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (K.60179)

SOUTH DEVON

About a mile from the sea and 4 miles from a market town.

QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

3 reception rooms, Adam mantelpieces, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 self-contained flats each with bathroom.

Co.'s electric light.

GARAGE AND OUTBUILDINGS

2 MODERN COTTAGES

together with about

20 ACRES

PRICE £7,500 or would be sold without the cottages.

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.22121)

ON FAVOURITE SUSSEX COASTAL ESTATE

Under 200 yards from sea.

PRETTY MODERN RESIDENCE OF ARTISTIC DESIGN

Brick built with leaded lights, part weather boarded and rendered. Small entrance hall, large L-shaped lounge 22 ft. by 20 ft. with oak strip floor, dining room and good kitchen, 5 nice bedrooms (2 h. and c.), bathroom, etc.

Partial central heating. Main services.

Oak doors and joinery throughout.

BRICK-BUILT GARAGE.

SIMPLE GARDEN.

FREEHOLD £5,850

Inspected and recommended by HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.53764)

KENT. TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Standing high in exclusive area only 5 minutes station.

ATTRACTIVE ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOUSE, EASY TO RUN

Exceptionally well appointed and in excellent condition.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms all with basins, 2 bathrooms, excellent offices.

Oak panelled staircase and parquet flooring throughout.

COMPLETE CENTRAL HEATING

Main gas, electricity and water.

DOUBLE GARAGE

Charming garden and woodland.

PRICE FREEHOLD £9,950

Strongly recommended by HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (K.44244)

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON AND STATION; BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS; AND BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS

WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.

17, BLAGRAVE STREET, READING (Tel. Reading 54018 and 54019).

ADJOINING NATIONAL TRUST LANDS

Choice situation 35 miles south-west of London.

A REALLY BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED HOUSE with Georgian-style decor, period mantels and a host of other features. Panelled reception hall, cloakroom, 3 reception (one 40 ft. long), compact offices, 6-7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

Central heating. Main services. Aga cooker.

Garage for 3 cars. Cottage and delightful garden and woodland.

6 ACRES FREEHOLD

Fully illustrated particulars available.

17TH-CENTURY HOUSE NEAR WALLINGFORD

In placid village, standing off road with courtyard.

Galleried hall, cloaks, 2 sitting rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. *Main services.* Aga cooker. Double garage and secluded garden, orchard.

2 ACRES FREEHOLD

UNIQUE IN THE CHALFONTS

Secluded in 2 acres yet only short walk from station and shops, 1 mile from golf.

A VERY ATTRACTIVE HOUSE. Hall, cloaks, 2 sitting, 4 beds., bath. *Mains. Central heating.* Garage and excellent cottage, well kept garden. **FREEHOLD**

VINCENT PENFOLD & WOOTTON

PERRYMOUNT BUILDINGS, HAYWARDS HEATH (Tel. 1744), SUSSEX

FORTHCOMING AUCTION SALE

PYECOMBE SUSSEX

In this attractive Downland Village, only 6 miles north of Brighton, and 2½ miles from Hassocks Station (London 55 minutes).

FOR CONVERSION AND INVESTMENT

Lot 1. A Small Tudor Farmhouse, now two Self-contained Cottages, each comprising 2/3 Bedrooms, Living Room, Kitchen, etc. Range of Outbuildings. Large Garden. Main Water connected, other services available. **FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION**

Lot 2. A Pair of Attractive Flint-faced Cottages each comprising 3 Bedrooms, Living Room, Kitchen, etc. Outbuildings and Small Garden. Main Water connected, other services available. **FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION**

Lot 3. Small parcel of freehold land, adjoining and to the South of the Churchyard. **VACANT POSSESSION**

Lot 4. A Valuable Freehold Investment or for future occupation. A PAIR OF EXCELLENT FREEHOLD COTTAGES, at present let to reliable Tenants producing about **PER £40 ANNUM**

FOR SALE BY AUCTION (unless previously Sold) on TUESDAY, 20th MARCH, 1956, at 3 p.m.

BETWEEN HAYWARDS HEATH & EAST GRINSTEAD ½ *mile from the road on high ground with* MODERNIZED HOUSE ON 2 FLOORS. 4 Bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, central heating throughout. Main water and electricity. Useful Outbuildings and **ABOUT 3¼ ACRES £4,500 FREEHOLD.**

HAYWARDS HEATH MODERN ARCHITECT DESIGNED HOUSE in quiet position. 3 Bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom. Garage with large room at rear. Main Services. ¼ **ACRE GARDEN. £5,750 FREEHOLD**

Full details from Messrs VINCENT PENFOLD & WOOTTON, as above.

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

T.T. AND ATTESTED FARM BETWEEN BASINGSTOKE AND NEWBURY

THE HOME OF A WELL-KNOWN PRIZE WINNING PEDIGREE HERD

Gentleman's Period House, containing 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, modern offices. Aga cooker and Agamatic boiler.

Main electricity, power points throughout. Main water.

Model buildings: ties for 56 cows, 9 loose boxes, 3 bull boxes, calf pens, 3 covered yards. Secondary range of buildings.

2 excellent cottages with main services and bathrooms.

ABOUT 115 ACRES including about 5 acres of woodland.

FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE PRICE

Inspected and strongly recommended by the Agents:
JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (C. 62,734)

FOXWARREN PARK, COBHAM, SURREY

THE WELL-KNOWN RESIDENCE LUXURIOUSLY APPOINTED AND MAGNIFICENTLY SITED

HALL, 4 GOOD RECEPTION ROOMS, 11 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS AND 6 BATHROOMS, 7 STAFF BEDROOMS AND BATHROOM.

Oil-fired central heating and domestic hot water. Main water and electricity.

Modern drainage.

RANGE OF GARAGES WITH 2 STAFF FLATS OVER.

LOVELY TERRACED PLEASURE GARDENS. **ABOUT 7 ACRES.**

PRICE £12,000. FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

(Further land and cottages may be purchased if required)

Recommended by the Sole Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & CO.,
23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (J. 20,444)

HORLEY, SURREY

Station 1 mile

PERIOD FARM HOUSE

7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms.

Main electricity, gas and water.

12 ACRES.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD £7,500

Lodge may be purchased.

Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & Co.,
23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (C. 20,572)

Just in the Market.

WARWICKSHIRE

Shipston on Stour 3 miles. Stratford on Avon 9 miles.

ATTRACTIVE COTSWOLD STONE RESIDENCE

Hall, 2 reception rooms, 4 principal and 2 staff bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

GARAGES. GARDEN. STABLING.
COTTAGE (Let).

Main electricity. Water by electric pump. Septic tank drainage.

VACANT POSSESSION (except Cottage).

ABOUT 1½ ACRES.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY £5,250

Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & Co.,
23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (J. 73,417)

WINDLESHAM, SURREY

Sunningdale 3 miles

PICTURESQUE OLD-WORLD HOUSE

5 principal and 2 staff bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, hall and 2 reception rooms.

Main electricity and water.

19 ACRES.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD £11,000

Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & Co.,
23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (C. 21,905)

MAYfair 6341 (10 lines) — 23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1 — Telegrams: "Wood, Agents, Wesdo, London"

GROsvenor 2861

TRESIDDER & CO.

77, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, LONDON, W.1.

Telegrams: "Cornishmen (Audley), London"

WILTSHIRE. NEAR GLOUCESTERSHIRE BORDER

2¼ miles main line station (1¼ hours London).

CHARMING OLD MANOR HOUSE

Restored and modernised.

OIL-FIRED CENTRAL HEATING.

Main electricity and water. Aga cooker.

Hall, 4 reception, modern kitchen, 3 bathrooms, 6 bedrooms. Staff cottage.

GARAGES FOR 3.

Range of loose boxes.

PAIR OF COTTAGES

Spacious lawns, HARD TENNIS COURT, walled kitchen garden, orchard and good feeding pastures. **30 ACRES.**

Owner's Agents: TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (30,506)

HERTFORDSHIRE—BUCKINGHAMSHIRE BORDER

Easy reach Moor Park, near golf, rural, yet only 3 hour West End.

EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE, WELL-FITTED LABOUR-SAVING MODERN HOUSE FAVOURING THE GEORGIAN STYLE.

4 fine reception rooms including galleried lounge 24 ft. by 22 ft., 2 bathrooms, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, sleeping balcony. Main electricity, water and drainage. Double garage. Easily kept gardens, orchard and paddock.

1½ OR 4½ ACRES. FREEHOLD.

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (30,754)

KENT. In charming old village, south of Maidstone

AN ATTRACTIVE HOUSE OF CHARACTER

3 reception, bathroom, 4-5 bedrooms (2 h. and c.). Main water and electricity. Aga cooker and water heater, also immersion heater, radiators. Garages and outbuildings. Gardens, profitable orchard, etc.

£3,950 FREEHOLD. 2 ACRES.

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (30,759)

WOKING

1 mile station (Waterloo under 30 mins.). Quiet and secluded position. Handy for good golf. South aspect.

PICTURESQUE MODERN HOUSE

well appointed and in good order. Nicely proportioned rooms. 5-6 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, hall, usual offices. All main services. Part central heating. Basins in bedrooms.

Garage. Pleasant easily maintained garden, lawns, herbaceous border, kitchen garden, orchard, etc., in all about **2¼ ACRES.**

LOW PRICE FOR QUICK SALE.

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (13,698)

Sloane Square, S.W.1, and at 52, Church Road, Hove

WILLIAM WILLETT LTD.

Tel. SLOane 8141
Tel. Hove 34055

EARLY GEORGIAN HOUSE

with beautiful views, in a favourite Sussex Village south of Tunbridge Wells.

3 rec., 5 bed, 2 bath, 3 attics, kit (Aga). Central heating. Mains. Fine barn. Garage etc. 14 acres including valuable site. **£7,100.**

BEAUTIFUL 17th CENTURY HOUSE

In secluded and unspoilt country at the foot of the North Downs, about 2 miles from Reigate.

With first class secondary residence, 6 bed, 2 bath, 3/4 rec, 2 attics. Garage and loose boxes etc., 6 acres with two paddocks.

£8,750 AND £3,250 FOR THE COTTAGE, IF REQUIRED.

AMERSHAM, BUCKS

Charming easily run house, completely modernised and redecorated inside and out. In a high sunny position near station, shops, etc.

Hall with radiator, 2/3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, modern kitchen, Garage, Attractive Garden.

FREEHOLD £4,950.

Sole Agents.

FOR BARGAIN HUNTERS

A small moated Manor House with delightful 3 acres and views over fields to the sea.

Close to West Mersea and 8 miles from Colchester. 6 bedrooms (h. & c.), 2 bathrooms, 4 reception (one 42 ft. x 27 ft.). Kitchen (Esse). Central heating. In excellent order. Good outbuildings.

FREEHOLD £4,750.

WEST CHILTINGTON VILLAGE, SUSSEX

Well maintained attractive Cottage (15th-16th century), standing in about 1¼ acres, including paddock.

Cloakroom off Hall, 2 reception, 3 bed. (fitted basins and cupboards), bath., kitchen. Main electricity and water. Garage. Greenhouse, stable and outbuildings.

ASKING £4,800 (offers invited).

Apply Hove Office.

HOVE—(Close Brighton Boundary)

Attractive modern detached residence in road leading to the sea front, convenient for Hove and Brighton stations (1 hour Victoria).

Hall (Parquet), cloakroom, 2 good reception, study, 3 double bed., dressing room (or fourth bed.), bath., particularly bright kitchen, etc., garage, walled rear garden.

ASKING £6,750 FREEHOLD.

Apply Hove Office.

HORSHAM TO GUILDFORD ROAD

(London 36 miles—Brighton 20).

Delightful Tudor residence, modern comforts and services with the old character retained. Accommodation conveniently planned all on one floor.

2 splendid reception, 5 bed. (all with wardrobes), 2 bath., kitchen, etc., garage, loose boxes, easily maintained grounds including paddock, in all about 6 acres.

ASKING £8,500.

Apply Hove Office.

GROsvenor 1553 (4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)
25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

13, Hobart Place, Eaton Square, 5, West Halkin Street, Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.

KENT BARGAIN

GEORGIAN HOUSE, LOVELY GROUNDS, ALL EXCELLENT ORDER
£5,500

Few miles from Canterbury. 5 miles main line with business trains to London in 80 minutes.

8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms.
Main water and electricity. Central heating practically throughout.
Brick and tiled buildings, well removed and convertible to small residence, affording garages for 3-4 cars and accommodation for 4-roomed flat over.
DELIGHTFUL. ECONOMICAL GARDEN OF 2 ACRES
Model pig farm of 12 acres and pair of modernised cottages available if wanted.

Recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. R.A.W. (D.2,795)

UNSPOILED SUSSEX

9 miles Eastbourne. Electric services from Polegate and Lewes.

GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Secluded position on a knoll. Open views through 360°. 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms.
Recently partly redecorated.
Fitted basins and complete central heating.
Main water and electricity.
Garage for 4 cars. Modern pig farmery.
Very economical grounds with new hard tennis court and 2 paddocks.
8 ACRES. £8,750

Recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. R.A.W. (E.2,053)

GASCOIGNE-PEES

SURBITON, LEATHERHEAD, DORKING, REIGATE, GUILDFORD, EPSOM

ON THE
SLOPES OF REIGATE HILL

Enjoying glorious far reaching views

A CHARMING MODERN DETACHED COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE comprising porch with oak door to hall, superb L-shaped "through" lounge-dining room, loggia, tiled kitchen, 3 good bedrooms, tiled bathroom, sep. w.c. Brick garage. Most attractive garden fronting a private spinney.
REDUCED TO £4,450 FREEHOLD

CLOSE TO
THE LOVELY WRAY COMMON

Situated in a private made-up road in one of Reigate's favoured residential areas

A DIGNIFIED DETACHED FAMILY RESIDENCE.
Lounge hall, cloakroom, dining room, morning room, door to conservatory, handsome drawing room, 5 principal bedrooms, dressing room, 2 secondary bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, breakfast room, kitchen, detached garage. Partly walled garden of nearly **1 ACRE.**
FREEHOLD £5,950
(Any reasonable offer will be considered).
Apply: 6, Church Street, Reigate. Tel. 44293.

SURREY SUSSEX BORDERS

Circa 1550

GENUINE TUDOR COTTAGE surrounded by lovely farmland. Structure extremely sound but interior requires some expenditure (about £750) to make the property a really lovely week-end retreat. 2 rec. and 2 bedrooms at present. **¼ ACRE.** A true bargain at only
£1,800 FREEHOLD
Apply: 31, South Street, Dorking. Tel. 4071/2.

SHALFORD, NEAR GUILDFORD

a few minutes walk of the old Village Green

ARTISTIC DETACHED MODERN RESIDENCE, built just before the War in a quiet close, about 2 miles South of Guildford. Hall with cloakroom, lounge with communicating door to dining room, 3 good size bedrooms, spacious kitchen, tiled bathroom. Brick garage and garden about ⅓ **ACRE. PRICE £4,300 FREEHOLD**
Apply: 90, High Street, Guildford. Phone 67377.

A HEAVENLY RETREAT

with glorious views to Newlands Corner

In a high and secluded situation surrounded by lovely National Trust lands, close favoured Village between Guildford and Dorking.
ARCHITECT DESIGNED MODERN RESIDENCE of unusual charm. Hall with cloakroom, "L" shaped lounge, 23ft. x 20ft. into dining recess and having casement to sun loggia, 3 excellent bedrooms, with basins. Model tiled kitchen and bathroom. Grounds about **3 ACRES,** mainly in its lovely natural wooded state. Garage and workshop.
PRICE £5,600 FREEHOLD
Apply: 90, High Street, Guildford. Phone 67377.

MAIDENHEAD
SUNNINGDALE

GIDDY & GIDDY

WINDSOR, SLOUGH
GERRARDS CROSS

COOKHAM DEAN, BERKS.

Adjoining National Trust Commons

A WELL EQUIPPED MODERN HOUSE IN ORCHARD GARDENS OF 1 ACRE. Complete central heating installed 1955. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, exceptional cupboards and built-in wardrobes. Garage for 3 cars.
FREEHOLD £5,950.
Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Maidenhead. (Tel. 53)

COOKHAM, BERKS.

Near one of the finest Sailing Reaches on the Thames.

CONVENIENTLY PLANNED with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, panelled lounge hall, 2 trunk rooms (possible bedrooms if required). Central heating. Oak parquet floors. Detached cottage. Double garage. Swimming pool. **2 ACRES.**
AUCTION APRIL 5, UNLESS SOLD BEFORE.
Joint Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Maidenhead. (Tel. 53) or HILLARY & Co., Maidenhead. (Tel. 167).

ON A GOLF COURSE

High up with pleasant views within 30 miles of London.

A CHARMING REPLICA OF A TUDOR MANOR HOUSE. 5 bedrooms, luxury bathroom, 3 reception rooms, spacious entrance hall and cloakroom. Modern kitchen. Central heating. Basins in bedrooms. Oak floors and joinery. 2 garages and outbuildings. Lovely gardens with a gateway to the golf course. **1 ACRE.**
For sale at Auction APRIL 5 unless sold before.
Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Maidenhead. (Tel. 53).

82, QUEEN STREET, EXETER

RICKEARD, GREEN & MICHELMORE

'Phone 74072/3
'Grams: "Conric," Exeter

EXMOUTH, DEVON

¾-mile sea front. 3½ miles Budleigh Salterton, 5 mins. from shops and station, on bus route.

DETACHED SEMI-BUNGALOW brick and tiled roof, in excellent order. Situated in a cul-de-sac, views over Exe Estuary and Haldon Hills. 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom. Separate w.c. *All mains.* Large garage. Small garden and orchard. Recommended.
FREEHOLD £3,600 (Ref. D.11,832)

NORTH DEVON, BRAUNTON

Situated 5 miles from Barnstaple

DETACHED TUDOR-STYLE GABLED RESIDENCE. South aspect, magnificent views. Built in 1925. 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. *All mains. Central heating.* Garage.
1½ ACRES. FREEHOLD £5,800
Sole Agents. (Ref. D.11,912)

EAST DEVON

Between Exeter and Sidmouth.

CONVENIENTLY PLANNED COUNTRY HOUSE 3 reception rooms, kitchen with "Aga," 5 bedrooms with Devon grates, bathroom. Separate w.c. *Main electricity. Water automatic pump. Central heating.* Double garage. Tennis court. Good garden. **IN ALL APPROX. 3 ACRES. FREEHOLD £6,250**
Sole Agents. (Ref. D.11,921)

EAST CORNWALL

4½ miles Liskeard, 9 miles Looe and Coast

AN OLD RECTORY 370 ft. above sea level. Secluded position. 130 yards from village. S.E. aspect. Re-built in 1836. 4 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. *Main electricity. Own water supply. Modern septic tank drainage.* Garage 2 Cars. Stabling for 2. Useful outbuildings. The whole property extends to **5 2 3rd ACRES. FREEHOLD £3,900 (or near offer).**
(Ref. C.11,661)

TIVERTON, DEVON

14 miles from Exeter, near Blundells School.

WELL-APPOINTED HOUSE, brick cavity walls, slate roof. Main rooms S. and W. aspect. Lounge 15¼ ft. x 13ft. 3 in., dining room 14¼ ft. x 12¼ ft., breakfast room 13ft. x 12ft., cloakroom with w.c., 5 bedrooms, bathroom (hot and cold), w.c. *All mains.* Telephone. Garage with doors to Blundells Avenue. Garden with small kitchen garden.
FREEHOLD £4,500 (Ref. D.11,874)

EAST DEVON

Situated 11 miles from Ottery St. Mary, on bus route.

SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE in excellent condition. Brick built. 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms (2 with hot and cold basins), bathroom. Separate w.c. *Main electricity. Water pumped by elec. Septic tank drainage. Central heating.* Garage 2 cars. Heated greenhouse, store sheds. Garden, orchard, paddock. **IN ALL 5¼ ACRES. FREEHOLD £4,750** (Ref. D.11,920)

MORETONHAMPSTEAD, South Devon

13 miles Exeter and Newton Abbot.

VERY WELL APPOINTED BUNGALOW. Brick cavity walls, tiled roof. South aspect, extensive views. 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Separate w.c. *Main electricity, water and gas. Septic tank drainage.* Garage and Workshop. ½ **ACRE.**
FREEHOLD £3,500 (Ref. D.11,905)

5, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1 GROsvenor 5131 (8 lines)

CURTIS & HENSON

and at 21, HORSEFAIR, BANBURY, OXON Tel. 3295-6

BUCKS—TAPLOW

12 minutes' walk station.

MOST CHARMING RECENTLY CONVERTED COTTAGE

Situated in delightful country. Surrounded by private estates.

Contains L-shaped sitting room, dining room, large kitchen, 3 bedrooms and bathroom.

Completely new plumbing and electrical installation throughout.

Large garage.

Well laid out garden.

PRICE £4,850 FREEHOLD

Rateable value £21.

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

SOUTH CORNISH COAST

A splendidly sited waterside property with about 75 yards of foreshore with excellent sailing.

2-3 reception, kitchen (Aga), 4 bedrooms (basins), bathroom, 2 self-contained flats each with 2 bedrooms, living room, bathroom, etc. Double garage, boathouse.

PRICE £9,250, FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON as above, or GUNTON AND EDWARDS, Port Navas, Falmouth.

SOMERSET

Between Wincanton and Yeovil.

QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

On the edge of a small village.

Comprising: 2-3 reception, 4-5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

GARAGE AND STABLING BLOCK WITH FLAT OVER

Small secluded garden, walled kitchen garden and paddocks with frontage to small river.

ABOUT 5½ ACRES IN ALL

PRICE £6,000 FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

DORKING (Tel. 2212) EFFINGHAM (Tel. Bookham 2801) BOOKHAM (Tel. 2744)

CUBITT & WEST

HASLEMERE (Tel. 660) FARNHAM (Tel. 5261) HINDHEAD (Tel. 63)

By direction of The DOWAGER LADY ALVINGHAM.

BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Occupying a picked position just over one mile from Haslemere main line station with its fast train service to Waterloo under one hour.

THIS SOUNDLY CONSTRUCTED MODERN PROPERTY

enjoys a sun-trap position and is in exceptional condition internally. Golf at Hindhead, Liphook and Midhurst. Polo at Cowdray Park.

Hall, cloakroom, lounge hall, fine drawing room, billiards room, dining room, study. Well equipped domestic offices, 6 principal beds and 3 bathrooms arranged in suites.

Main services. Central heating.

EXCELLENT COTTAGE and Garage block.

The well timbered grounds are a feature of the property with many delightful trees and flowering shrubs, lawns, informal rock garden and rose garden. **IN ALL ABOUT 17 ACRES.**

PRICE FREEHOLD £12,500

Sole Agents: CUBITT & WEST, Haslemere Office. (H.600.)

56, BAKER STREET, LONDON, W.1.

DRUCE & Co. LTD.

ESTABLISHED 1822 WELbeck 4468 (20 lines)

SUNNINGDALE, BERKS

4 minutes main line station

Occupying select position near golf course. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Double garage. Full central heating. ¾ **ACRE** well-planned garden.

LONG LEASE FOR SALE

BARGAIN AT £4,350

WANTED IN HOME COUNTIES

MESSRS. DRUCE & CO. HAVE A LARGE

REGISTER

OF

WAITING APPLICANTS

FOR MODERN AND PERIOD HOUSES FROM

£4,000 TO £10,000

(Especially with grounds which include a paddock)

ALSO

FURNISHED COUNTRY HOUSE

8/10 BEDROOMS, 4/5 ACRES

C.H. essential.

HIGH WYCOMBE AREA

WEST WORTHING, SUSSEX

6 minutes from sea, yet sunny and secluded

Hall with cloaks. 2 handsome reception. 4 double bedrooms. Tiled bathroom. Bright tiled offices. Refrigerator store. Integral garage. Secluded garden.

FOR QUICK SALE £4,950 FREEHOLD.

Sole Agents.

ST. JOHN SMITH & SON AMALGAMATED WITH CHARLES J. PARRIS

UCKFIELD (Tel. 280, 3 lines); CROWBOROUGH (Tel. 7, 2 lines).

A FINE OLD SUSSEX RESIDENCE

Haywards Heath (Victoria 45 mins.) 9 miles. Overlooking golf course.

BRICKYARD FARM, PILTDOWN

Fully modernised and with lovely views.

5 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, charming lounge and 2 other reception rooms, breakfast room.

Main electricity. Own water (main expected end of summer). Central heating.

Character Bungalow

of 4 rooms and bathroom.

Double garage.

2½ ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION. OFFERS INVITED BY PRIVATE TREATY OR AUCTION IN APRIL, 1956

For illustrated particulars apply Uckfield Office.

IN UNSPOILED SUSSEX

Buxted 3 miles and Lewes (Victoria 60 mins.) 10 miles.

A LOVELY SMALL PERIOD RESIDENCE

with old-world features including inglenooks and oak-beamed ceilings.

4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, loggia, 3 reception rooms.

Main electricity and water. Central heating.

Picturesque Modern Cottage.

Garage. Old mill house.

Well stocked **Trout stream and pool.**

Garden and **12½ ACRES** grassland. **VACANT POSSESSION** (except of farmland).

PRICE £8,750 FREEHOLD

Apply Uckfield Office or Joint Sole Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, 28b, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W.1 (Tel. HYDe Park 4304), for illustrated particulars.

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GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

WILSON & CO.

GROsvenor
1441

KENT—SUSSEX BORDERS BETWEEN
RYE AND TENTERDEN
Perfect rural position with fine views on outskirts of picturesque old village. Easy reach sea and golf course.

A MELLOWED QUEEN ANNE HOUSE
First-class order. Main services, central heating. Aga. 5 beds (basins), 2 baths, lounge, 3 reception. Garage. Outbuildings. Pretty garden. Orchard, 2¼ acres.
£5,950 FREEHOLD. Fresh in the market.

IN UNSPOILT HERTS VILLAGE
Between Hatfield and Hitchin; 35 minutes London.
A CHARMING OLD VILLAGE HOUSE IN THE EARLY GEORGIAN STYLE.
7 beds., 2 baths., 4 reception. Central heating. Mains. Cottage, garage and stabling block. Charming gardens with pond and paddock.
ONLY £6,000 FREEHOLD WITH 5 ACRES

UNSPOILT SUSSEX
Picked position 300 ft. up with views to the sea.
CHARMING SMALL JACOBEAN MANOR
6 beds., 3 reception, 3 baths. Central heating. Aga. Agamatic. 2 cottages. Small T.T. farmery.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH 20 ACRES
Owner would sell without the farm.

OVERLOOKING WILTSHIRE DOWNS
Between Salisbury and Devizes
SMALL GEORGIAN HOUSE
of 3-4 beds, bath and 3 reception with charming wing of 2 beds, bath and 2 reception, completely self contained, farmery and paddocks
£4,500 WITH ABOUT 4 ACRES

ADJOINING SOUTH DOWNS, BETWEEN
LEWES AND EASTBOURNE
Outskirts of small village. Main line station 3 miles.

AN EXQUISITE SMALL TUDOR HOUSE
superbly appointed. Lounge, 3 well proportioned reception rooms, 5 beds., 2 baths., modern offices. Central heating. Aga. Mains. Garage. Exceptionally lovely timbered garden with swimming pool.
OFFERS ON £7,000 CONSIDERED

WINCHESTER
FLEET
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ALFRED PEARSON & SON

HARTLEY WINTNEY
ALDERSHOT
ALRESFORD

WINCHESTER
BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED ON WEEKE HILL WITHIN THE BOUNDARY OF THIS CATHEDRAL CITY ONLY 1 MILE FROM THE HIGH STREET.

A MODERN RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

FIVE BEDROOMS;
TWO BATHROOMS;
THREE RECEPTION ROOMS;
GOOD DOMESTIC OFFICES;
GARAGE BLOCK;
TENNIS COURT;
PADDOCK AND WOODED GROUNDS
OF ABOUT 3½ ACRES;
Main Services.

PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD
Winchester Office (Tel. 3388)

HARTLEY WINTNEY, HANTS
1½ miles Main Line Station
A SMALL RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER
4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Lounge Hall, Dining Room, Sitting Room, Breakfast Room and Kitchen.
ALL MAIN SERVICES.
Useful outbuildings and small attractive garden.
PRICE £3,950
Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

SOUTH BERKSHIRE
In a rural area, 4 miles from market town
A SUPERIOR AND SPACIOUS BUNGALOW RESIDENCE WITH 6 ACRES IDEAL FOR PIGS AND POULTRY.
Hall, 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen.
MAIN ELECTRICITY, WATER AND GAS.
Garage and useful outbuildings.
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ESTATE HOUSE,
62, KING STREET,
MAIDENHEAD

CYRIL JONES & PARTNERS

Maidenhead
2033-4

IN OLD WORLD VILLAGE
BETWEEN MAIDENHEAD AND HENLEY
Close to Temple Golf Links.
Delightful Small House In the Old English Style
4 bed, 2 bath, 2 reception; *main electric lighting and heating.* 2 garages. Easily maintained garden. All in first-class order.
PRICE £6,250 FREEHOLD
Ref. 3875.

"FIELDS END," BRAY
Extremely attractive Modern Cottage Residence
3 bedrooms, half-tiled bathroom, 2 reception rooms, loggia, downstairs cloakroom, kitchen, excellent garage; attractive garden with garden room; *main electric light, gas and water. Partial central heating.*
For Sale Privately or by Public Auction on the 22nd March next.

AUCTIONEERS, ESTATE AGENTS AND VALUERS
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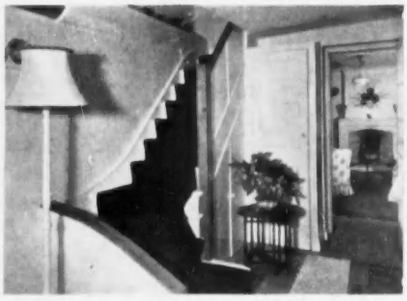
INCORPORATING
FORTT, HATT & BILLINGS

NEW BOND STREET CHAMBERS,
14, NEW BOND STREET,
BATH

AN ENCHANTING COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE
ON THE COTSWOLD HILLS
IN THE HEART OF A VILLAGE ON THE BRISTOL/LONDON ROAD (8 miles Bath, 12 miles Bristol).



COMPLETELY RE-DESIGNED AND MODERNISED TO PROVIDE A LUXURIOUS AND LABOUR-SAVING HOME
The old-world property scheduled as a building of special architectural interest forms part of a terrace and affords the following ACCOMMODATION on 2 floors only.
ON THE GROUND FLOOR (which is laid throughout in Macori block wood flooring): ENTRANCE HALL, DINING ROOM with French window, LOUNGE with bow-bay window, BREAKFAST ROOM, KITCHEN, CLOAKROOM.
ON THE FIRST FLOOR: 3 BEDROOMS, well appointed BATHROOM.
Many attractive and unusual features. Central heating.
Simply maintained GARDENS with crazy paved SUN TERRACE, lawn, kitchen garden. 2 GARAGES.
A UNIQUE PROPERTY IN EVERY RESPECT WHICH MUST REALLY BE SEEN TO BE APPRECIATED
P.F. 1836.

A LOVELY PERIOD HOUSE IN SOMERSET
Bath, Warminster and Frome easily accessible.

THE RESIDENCE WITH DRIVE APPROACH
Beautifully modernised throughout, ensuring the maximum of comfort, and equipped with labour-saving devices, but still retaining the charm and character of earlier centuries.
Accommodation (with a multitude of attractive features): 3 delightful reception rooms, 4/6 bedrooms, games room, 2 bathrooms, modern kitchen and offices.
All main services.
Double garage. Greenhouse and other outbuildings.
Superior cottage residence (service tenancy).
Attractive gardens, grounds and paddock.
IN ALL 3 ACRES
Altogether an exceptional property privately in the market. P.F. 1343.

44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.1

STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN

(Formerly JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, LONDON)

HYDe Park 0911-2-3-4

VACANT POSSESSION (with minor exceptions).

ISLE OF WIGHT

Situated in approximately the geographical centre of the Island and convenient for Newport, Shanklin, Ventnor, Cowes and Ryde

FOR SALE PRIVATELY AT A MODERATE PRICE (OR BY AUCTION LATER) AS A WHOLE OR IN 3 LOTS AS UNDER. THE WELL-KNOWN RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL FREEHOLD PROPERTY

ROOKLEY MANOR, ROOKLEY, NEAR VENTNOR

ROOKLEY MANOR WITH 5 ACRES (LOT 1)

LOT 1. Comprising: A small stone-built residence of character of 3 Sitting Rooms, 5 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms and excellent offices including Kitchen with "Aga" cooker and water heater. *Central Heating from oil-fired boiler. Main Water. Main Electricity and Power. Modern Drainage System.* Beautiful Gardens, Orchard and Paddock, Stabling, Garages, etc. **ABOUT 5 ACRES IN ALL.**

Also **LOT 2. ROOKLEY MANOR FARM.** With an excellent range of T.T. and Attested buildings; the home of a well-known Dexter Herd and Aberdeen-Angus Cattle. Concrete roads to all buildings.

SECONDARY RESIDENCE (or Farm House) with all modern conveniences, containing 2 Sitting Rooms, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom and 2 W.C.s.

86 ACRES (10 LET)

of rich Grassland and a small proportion of arable, thus making it

ROOKLEY MANOR FARM WITH 86 ACRES (LOT 2)

ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE AGRICULTURAL PROPOSITIONS AT PRESENT IN THE MARKET IN THE ISLAND

LOT 3. TWO SEMI-DETACHED COTTAGES WITH ABOUT ONE ACRE

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SIR FRANCIS PITTIS & SON, Newport, Isle of Wight. Telephone: Newport 2424 and 2542. (Also at Ventnor, Ryde, Sandown and Shanklin).

DORSET—SOMERSET BORDER

Easy reach Gillingham, Wincanton and Templecombe. Situated on outskirts of small country town.

STONE-BUILT COUNTRY HOUSE IN PARKLIKE SURROUNDINGS

3 EXCELLENT RECEPTION ROOMS,
4 MAIN AND 2 SECONDARY BEDROOMS,
2 BATHROOMS, MODERN DOMESTIC OFFICES,
CLOAKROOM.

All main services, domestic hot water.

MATURE GARDENS, HARD TENNIS COURT, STABLING AND GARAGE

ABOUT 5 ACRES IN ALL PRICE FREEHOLD £5,950

Inspected and recommended by
STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R.27,777)

WEST SUSSEX

Between Mathurst and Haslemere.

KINGSLEY PLACE, KINGSLEY GREEN

A FINE MODERN RESIDENCE IN THE GEORGIAN STYLE commanding views which are unexcelled in this beautiful district. 600ft. above sea level. Southern aspect. 2½ miles from Haslemere with its fast electric train service to Waterloo in 1 hour. 3 Sitting Rooms and Study, all with oak flooring. Excellent offices include Maid's Sitting Room. 7 Principal Bedrooms, 2 Dressing Rooms and 4 Bathrooms. Also 4 Staff Bedrooms and another Bathroom. Stabling. Garage. Cottage.

Main Electricity, Power, Company's Water, Central Heating, Modern Drainage.

The GARDEN with its paved terrace and woodland extends in all to about **5 ACRES.**

PRICE FREEHOLD £9,500

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UCKFIELD (Tel. 532-3)

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OCCUPYING A UNIQUE POSITION IN OLD WILLINGDON WITH DELIGHTFUL VIEWS

2½ MILES FROM EASTBOURNE AND POLEGATE MAIN LINE STATIONS

EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE COTTAGES AND FLATS

in course of conversion from a well-known

"LUTYENS HOUSE"

SOUTH ELEVATION OVERLOOKING WALLED GARDENS

Adjacent to Shops, Post Office, Church and 'Bus Route.

PRICES FROM £2,250 to £3,500

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ONLY 12 UNITS AVAILABLE

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COUNTRY HOUSES AROUND GUILDFORD

HOUSE OF DISTINCTION (one mile High Street), entrance hall, fitted cloakroom, through lounge, pleasant dining room, spacious kitchen, 5 bedrooms, detached garage. **£6,250.**

SHALFORD. HOUSE OF SOME CHARACTER. Spacious yet compact accommodation, lounge, dining room, breakfast room-kitchen, 3 bedrooms, garage. **£3,650.**

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AMIDST DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY. Guildford 5 miles. Modern detached house; through lounge with dining recess, spacious kitchen, 3 bedrooms (with basins), garage and workshop. **£5,600.**

'TWIXT GUILDFORD AND NEWLANDS CORNER. Countryfied position. 2 minutes 'bus route. Attractive detached modern house. 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, garage. **£5,500.**

Particulars of the above can be obtained from the Owners' Agents, Guildford Office, 180, High Street (Tel. 5304-5).

RURAL HERTFORDSHIRE

London 21 miles, Baker Street 41 minutes.

CHARMING COUNTRY COTTAGE IN THE CHESS VALLEY

Delightful view over river and farmland.

OWN TROUT FISHING

About 300 years old, well modernised.

2 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, DRAWING ROOM, KITCHEN-DINETTE

MAIN WATER AND ELECTRIC LIGHT, POWER POINTS

ATTRACTIVE SMALL GARDEN

GARAGE SPACE or one may be hired nearby.

FREEHOLD £3,500

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AMIDST THE KENT ORCHARDS

Easy daily reach of London. Trains to Victoria and Holborn in one hour.

In an excellent position on outskirts of unspoilt village.

ATTRACTIVE OLD STONE-BUILT HOUSE

with good-sized rooms.

Hall, 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Partial central heating.

Main electricity and water. Gas available.

2 MODERNISED COTTAGES.

Garages. Stabling.

ABOUT 8 ACRES. FOR SALE.

Apply, Head Office, as above.

WILTSHIRE—GLOUCESTERSHIRE BORDER

A REALLY LOVELY OLD STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE

of much historical interest, part dating from early 14th century. Restored and modernised without detriment to its original character.

In a pleasant position facing south.

Panelled hall, 3 reception, 4 principal bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, 2 staff rooms and bathroom.

Main electricity and water.

Central heating and hot water (oil-fired).

Garage, milking parlour (T.T.), dutch barn and other buildings.

Attractive old-world garden with fine topiary work, old bowling green, walled vegetable garden, orchard, paddock and woodland, in all **12 ACRES**

FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION AT REDUCED PRICE

Apply, Head Office, as above.

WEST SUSSEX

Petersfield 7 miles and Chichester 10 miles.

IN A FINE POSITION ON THE DOWNS.

SUITABLE FOR INSTITUTIONAL PURPOSES, HAVING BEEN OCCUPIED AS A CHILDREN'S HOME

Hall, 5 reception, 21 bedrooms, extensive bathroom and toilet accommodation.

Domestic offices and staff rooms.

Central heating. Main water and electricity.

PAIR OF COTTAGES. GARAGES FOR 8 CARS

ABOUT 7½ ACRES

FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

or would be sold without the cottages.

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OXFORD 3 MILES

Situated in excellent position on high ground with fine views.

FALAISE, CUMNOR HILL

Attractive well-fitted house, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. *Main electricity, gas and water.* Double garage. Well laid-out garden including tennis court, swimming pool and orchard.

In all about 2 ACRES

FOR SALE BY AUCTION AT THE RANDOLPH HOTEL, OXFORD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21 AT 3 p.m. (unless previously sold).

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An unusual opportunity to acquire a lease of a first-class modern house to be built to an approved tenant's requirements on the site of an old hall on a residential, sporting and agricultural estate.

3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, or to suit individual needs. Garage, stabling and staff cottage, lodges, gardens and grounds. Private approach drive.

Rental to include two guns in local syndicate (pheasants, partridge, excellent wild-fowling).

GOOD COARSE FISHING

Full particulars and suggested house plan from:

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WANTED TO RENT

STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER

are seeking for a client

A GOOD MIXED FARM OF **150-250 ACRES**

Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Essex or Suffolk preferred, but any good farming district considered.

Possession at Michaelmas 1956.

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WEST SURREY

PYRFORD. Overlooking Golf Course

5 principal bedrooms, 3 dressing rooms, 2 principal bathrooms, staff accommodation, lounge hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms. Complete oil-fired central heating. Built-in cupboards. First class decorative order. All main services. Well maintained garden **1¼ ACRES**

£7,750 FREEHOLD

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GUILDFORD

Delightfully situated on private residential estate about 1 mile station, High Street.

4/5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, garage, matured secluded garden ⅓ **ACRE.**

ALL MAIN SERVICES.

£5,600 FREEHOLD

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WALTON-ON-THAMES

Secluded position; lovely Ashley Park. Waterloo 25 mins.

FIRST TIME IN MARKET.

Detached character residence which has been very well cared for. 3 bedrooms, boxroom, tiled bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, panelled hall. Easy to run with delightful garden. **£5,150 FREEHOLD**

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Established 1759

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Tels. Newbury 1 and 858

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BERKSHIRE MARKET TOWN

Good train services and schools.

A FINE GEORGIAN HOUSE

In very good order. 3 good receptn., billiards room, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. All services. Coach house, garage, etc. Garden about ¾ **ACRE** matured and pleasant. **£6,750. AN ATTRACTIVE PROPERTY.**

BERKSHIRE—WILTSHIRE BORDER

4 miles south of Hungerford.

Standing on the edge of a small village, facing south, looking towards the Downs about one mile away.

A MODERN HOUSE well built and equipped. 5 bedrooms (fitted basins), bathroom, 3 reception, cloakroom, kitchen, etc. Brick garage.

GROUNDS OF **2 ACRES. £4,000**

Between READING and NEWBURY

Standing on its own in rural country.

AN ENLARGED AND MODERNISED COTTAGE

facing south, with orchards and land of about **3½ ACRES.** 3 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 2 sitting rooms (one 22 ft. long). Main electricity. Garage.

£3,950

NEWBURY 4 MILES

With outlook over farmlands.

AN EXPENSIVELY MODERNISED COTTAGE

ideal for week-ends. 3 bedrooms with basins, bathroom, 2 sitting rooms, excellent kitchen. Main services. Attractively decorated. Garage. **1 ACRE. £3,400**

WILTSHIRE DOWNS

VERY RURAL POSITION

AN OLD FASHIONED COTTAGE RESIDENCE

Hall, 2 good reception rooms, kitchen, pantry, bathroom and 4 bedrooms. Garage. About **1 ACRE** rough ground. Main electricity. Part central heating. **£2,500.**

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48, CURZON STREET,
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LONDON 45 MILES

In the heart of the country; an easy car ride to coast

AN OLD HOUSE IN CHARMING GROUNDS surrounded by parklands. 5 bed., 2 bath., 4 reception and staff rooms. Central heating; main water and electricity. Garage, outbuildings and cottage.

FOR SALE WITH NEARLY 32 ACRES

WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon St., W.1. (GRO. 3121)

DEVON

On high ground 9 miles from Exeter.

A TASTEFULLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE

Built of mellowed stone, with agricultural estate.

8 main bed. and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 staff bedrooms and bathroom, hall and suite of elegant reception rooms. Well planned domestic offices.

Main electricity. Central heating.

STABLING AND GARAGE. 3 COTTAGES

Well timbered gardens and grounds including walled kitchen garden.

HOME FARM (at present let).

ABOUT 160 ACRES. FOR SALE

WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon St., W.1. (GRO. 3121)

NEAR NEWBURY

A MODERNISED GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

in well timbered parkland. 7 best bed., nurseries, staff rooms, 5 bath., and 4 reception rooms. Main electricity.

Central heating. Home farm with 4 cottages.

PRICE £12,000 WITH 50 ACRES

WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, W.1 (GRO. 3121).

SOUTH COAST—Near Yachting

With sea views; London under 1½ hours.

A LOVELY QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE in grounds adjoining farmland. 8 bed. and dressing, 2 bath., 3 reception rooms, all on two floors only. Main services.

Garage. Cottage.

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ESTATE OFFICES, 5, GRAFTON STREET, BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1

Tel.: HYDE PARK 4685 *And at Tottenham Court Road, W.1.*

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BURNHAM, BUCKS

For the business executive in London or Slough.

FIRST-CLASS COUNTRY RESIDENCE. Hall with cloaks, 3 reception rooms, 4 principal bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, staff accommodation. **3 ACRES.** Large garage. Bungalow. **FREEHOLD FOR SALE BY AUCTION APRIL 25th** *(unless previously sold).*

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Ideal for daily travel to Town.

ATTRACTIVE DETACHED RESIDENCE situated near the public schools. 4 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, study, hall with cloakroom, kitchen/breakfast room. Detached garage.

⅓ ACRE

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY NOW OR AUCTION LATER

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EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX

SMALL LUXURY RESIDENCE in the Meads. 5 bedrooms (4 with basins), 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, hall with cloakroom, fine kitchen. Complete central heating. Garage. Lovely garden of ⅓ **ACRE.**

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WHITE GATES, WOODCOCK HILL

RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS

High position, only 18 miles London.

MODERN ARTISTIC RESIDENCE and STABLING. 5 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, lounge hall and cloakroom, kitchen. Garage. Harness room, hayloft. Loose box. **2½ ACRES. FREEHOLD AUCTION APRIL 25th** *(unless previously sold).*

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MID-WILTS AVON VALLEY

4½ miles from Pewsey with station on main London-West Country Line, 9½ miles Devizes, 11 miles Marlborough.

SUBSTANTIALLY BUILT LATE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Occupying a secluded situation in a Village near the Church.

4 reception rooms, cloakroom, domestic offices with Aga, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 secondary bedrooms.

Main electricity. Water from Artesian bore well by electric pump.

Septic tank drainage.

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GREENHOUSE

Garden produce and implement stores. Walled pleasure and kitchen gardens. All beautifully maintained. Embracing **¾ OF AN ACRE**

PRICE £4,500 FREEHOLD

An additional kitchen garden and paddock may be available to rent if required

Apply Sole Agents, Salisbury Office (Tel. 2467/8).

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In a selected position on high ground with views of the the Cathedral and surrounding countryside.

AN ATTRACTIVE AND WELL APPOINTED RESIDENCE

2 reception rooms, study, cloakroom breakfast room and kitchen. Aga cooker and Agamatic boiler. 4 bedrooms, dressing room, boxroom or child's bed room, bathroom.

All main services.

Efficient part central heating.

TWO WORKSHOPS

LARGE GARAGE

HEATED GREENHOUSE

Well planned garden embracing ¾ **OF AN ACRE.**

PRICE £6,750 FREEHOLD

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HASLEMERE, SURREY

"BARRYCROFT," DENBIGH ROAD

On high ground with South aspect and panoramic views. Walking distance of High Street and Station (Waterloo 55 minutes).

A PICTURESQUE MODERN RESIDENCE

4 bed. (2 basins), bath, hall, cloaks, 2/3 rec. Aga boiler. All Mains. Garage, etc. **Nearly an Acre. Freehold with Possession.**

AUCTION on MARCH 23

Haslemere Office.

BETWEEN GODALMING AND HASCOMBE

In a highly sought after district, one minute bus route

UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE STONE AND TILED COTTAGE by Sir Edwin Lutyens. 2 bedrooms. Bathroom. Hall and cloaks. 2 reception rooms, store room. Kitchen, Rayburn. Main water and electricity. Garage space. Small garden. Vacant Possession, together with the adjoining LET Cottage, producing £57 8s. 4d. p.a. **FOR SALE FREEHOLD AT £3,300.**

Sole Agents: Godalming Office.

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Quiet situation, southerly views. Close to village and buses. 5 miles Farnham.

16th-CENTURY COTTAGE RESIDENCE

Completely modernised and redecorated. Features include central heating by automatic Rayburn, washbasins, oak strip floors, exposed timbering, inglenook fireplace.

3-4 bedrooms, coloured bathroom, 3-2 reception rooms, good entrance hall, modern kitchen with Leisure sink unit.

Main water and electricity. Modern drainage.

OLD-WORLD GARDEN ½ **ACRE**

FREEHOLD £4,500 WITH POSSESSION

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SACKVILLE HOUSE,
40, PICCADILLY, W.1
(*Entrance in Sackville Street*)

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SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY HOUSES

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MINIATURE ESTATE OF NINE ACRES

IN CHARMING WOODED SURROUNDINGS ON THE SUFFOLK AND NORFOLK BORDERS

Fine sporting district. Shooting, fishing. Racing at Newmarket 18 miles.

PICTURESQUE, WELL-PLANNED RESIDENCE WITH SPACIOUS, WARM AND SUNNY INTERIOR

HALL AND CLOAKROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 6 BEDROOMS (basins), 2 BATHROOMS.

Central heating. Main electricity. Good water supply.

GARAGE FOR 3 CARS. EXCELLENT DETACHED BUNGALOW COTTAGE.

Inexpensive gardens and woodland.

FOR SALE AT £5,600

SOMERSET—BETWEEN BATH AND WELLS

On fringe of attractive village with frequent bus service, 3 miles from Mendip Golf Course.

CHARMING RESIDENCE OF DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER

In excellent condition and easy to run.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS, GAMES ROOM 30 ft. by 20 ft., 6 BEDROOMS (4 with fitted basins), 2 BATHROOMS.

Main electricity and water.

GOOD RANGE OF OUTBUILDINGS including stable and garage with living quarters above.

FOWL HOUSE for 300 birds on deep litter system. Secluded garden, paddock and orchard. **NEARLY 3 ACRES**

PRICE FREEHOLD £5,750. Owner now farming in Devonshire requires quick sale.

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PRIVATELY IN THE MARKET FOR SALE

IN A CHARMING VILLAGE WITH VIEWS OF THE DOWNS ON THE BERKS AND WILTS BORDERS

Accessible to Newbury, Salisbury and Oxford.

PARTICULARLY CHARMING COUNTRY RESIDENCE, EQUIPPED WITH EVERY MODERN LUXURY AND COMFORT

Recently modernised quite regardless of expense and having a beautifully planned interior with exceptionally fine features including specimen fireplaces of period design. Complete system of oil-fired central heating. Well-proportioned rooms beautifully decorated, and plenty of built-in cupboards.

Charming lounge hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, American-type kitchen, maid's sitting room; suite comprising principal bedroom, dressing room and bathroom; 4 other bedrooms and 2 further bathrooms.

IN A SEPARATE WING are 4 rooms and bathroom which would make an ideal flat for married couple.

Radiators in all rooms.

Main electric light and power. Excellent water supply.

GARAGE ACCOMMODATION FOR 3 CARS.

Pair of splendid cottages, both newly modernised, and occupied on service tenancies.

Delightful gardens and grounds of parklike appearance, orchard and paddocks.

ABOUT 8½ ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1 (Tel.: REGent 2481).

LOVELY SETTING ADJOINING

SURREY GOLF COURSE

ONE OF THE FINEST POSITIONS WITHIN 20 MILES OF LONDON

PERFECTLY APPOINTED HOUSE

Built of the best quality materials and having an extremely dry and sunny interior.

Magnificent lounge hall, ideal for entertaining purposes, 2 other reception rooms, 5 principal bedrooms fitted basins, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 3 secondary bedrooms and third bathroom convertible to flat.

CENTRAL HEATING. MAIN SERVICES. GARAGE

Delightfully inexpensive gardens with choice variety of flowering and evergreen shrubs and having private gateway to golf course.

ABOUT 2 ACRES

FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE PRICE

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

IN A LOVELY VILLAGE ON THE

WEST SUSSEX DOWNS

Within easy reach of Goodwood, Fulborough and Chichester.

CHARMING HOUSE

WITH EXTENSIVE VIEWS, WITH WELL-PLANNED ACCOMMODATION ON TWO FLOORS ONLY

Extremely nice rooms. Easy to run. Hall and cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom.

CENTRAL HEATING. MAIN SERVICES.

Constant hot water.

New Agamatic boiler.

DOUBLE GARAGE

Well-stocked inexpensive garden with plenty of fruit.

NEARLY 2 ACRES

RECOMMENDED AS SOUND VALUE AT £4,950

Lovely walks in the district.

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CAPTIVATING COUNTRY COTTAGE RESIDENCE WITH LUXURIOUSLY DECORATED LABOUR-SAVING INTERIOR

IN ONE OF

THE MOST DELIGHTFUL SITUATIONS IN SUSSEX

Within easy reach of Horsham and having delightful south views permanently protected.

Combining period charm with every modern convenience.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, AMERICAN-STYLE KITCHEN.

Full central heating. Main services.

GARAGES AND STABLING.

Charming garden and paddock, about **1½ ACRES.**

THE ANSWER TO TODAY'S NEEDS AND RECOMMENDED TO THOSE WILLING TO PAY FOR PERFECTION.

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DELIGHTFUL SITUATION

ON THE HERTS AND ESSEX BORDERS

About 3 miles from Saffron Walden, 9 from Bishop's Stortford and 14 from Cambridge. Audley End main line station 1½ miles, with express trains to Liverpool Street in 1 hour.

BEAUTIFULLY FITTED SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE WITH EVERY CONCEIVABLE COMFORT

Tastefully decorated and in immaculate order.

Entrance hall with radiator, 2 charming reception rooms, 5 bedrooms all with fitted basins, bathroom, modern kitchen with Aga cooker. *Central heating. Main electric light and water. Agamatic hot water boiler.* Garage for 2 cars. Stabling with 3 loose boxes. **Small farmery** with range of poultry sheds to accommodate about 1,400 birds. 2 pigsties converted to turkey rearing houses.

Well laid out gardens and grounds, orchard and useful paddocks, **ABOUT 14 ACRES**

PRICE FREEHOLD £7,850

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KENT AND SUSSEX BORDER

VERY FINE OLD MANOR HOUSE

Completely modernised, incorporating every modern labour-saving device and in superb order.

Excellent oak joinery, doors and panelling. Study, 3 reception rooms, 9 or 10 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, secondary bedrooms and bathroom.

CENTRAL HEATING. MAINS. 2 EXCELLENT COTTAGES.

Compact modern farmery. Matured gardens forming a beautiful setting, orchards.

FOR SALE WITH 16 ACRES. ALL REASONABLE OFFERS CONSIDERED

Delightful SITUATION ON THE SURREY HILLS

A home of restful charm and character, eminently suitable for the London business man.

In one of the most delightful districts within 18 miles of London; 5 minutes' walk from station with good service of trains to City and West End.

THE ACME OF PERFECTION IN PLANNING AND EQUIPMENT

Entrance hall and cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 5 or 6 bedrooms, fitted basins, bathroom. MAIN SERVICES. GARAGE.

Delightful secluded gardens laid out with terraces, easy and economical to maintain.

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WALTON-ON-THAMES Walton 2487-8 | CLAYGATE (Esher) Esher 2323-4 | HINCHLEY WOOD Emberbrook 2365-6

THAMES DITTON. AN OLDER STYLE PROPERTY OF CHARACTER *on two floors* and with two staircases. AN IDEAL FAMILY HOUSE or easily vertically convertible into two separate dwellings. 5/6 bed, 3 rec, 2 kitchens, Bathrm., etc. Pleasant garden with building frontage. **£5,750 Freehold or offer.** *Apply: Clive House, Claygate Surrey. Tel. Esher 2323.*

ASHLEY PARK

Walton-on-Thames.

CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE

within easy reach Station and Shops. *Well built and equipped.* 4 bed, 3 good rec, Cloakrm. Large Kitchen. Polished floors. Part central heating.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS.

Attractive garden of ⅓ **ACRE.**

£7,500 FREEHOLD.

Sole Agents. Apply 45, High Street, Walton-on-Thames. Tel. 2487-8.

HINCHLEY WOOD. ATTRACTIVE MODERN DETACHED HOUSE IN IMMACULATE CONDITION INSIDE AND OUT. *Convenient for all amenities.* Two attractive rec. Cloakroom. Large very well fitted Kitchen. Three Bed, Boxroom. Half tiled Bathroom. Sep. W.C. Garage. Well stocked garden with open outlook at rear. **£4,700 FREEHOLD.** Apply 25, Station Approach, Hinchley Wood. Tel. Emberbrook 2365.

WANTED. DETACHED MODERN HOUSE in or near Esher. 4/5 bed, 2/3 recp. Fair sized garden. **UP TO £8,000.** Lady L. c/o Claygate Office.

CLARKE, GAMMON & EMERYS

GUILDFORD, GODALMING, HINDHEAD & LIPHOOK

BROOK, NEAR ALBURY, SURREY

Guildford 7 miles, Dorking 8 miles.

IN A VALLEY SETTING

Surrounded by lovely walking and riding country.

FREEHOLD PERIOD COTTAGE

2 Reception Rooms, Music room (25' x 15'), 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Kitchen, Garage, Pleasant Garden.

Main water and electricity, modern drainage.

SHAMLEY GREEN, SURREY

On omnibus route to Guildford Station (Waterloo 40 mins.) Overlooking the Village Green.

OLD WORLD COTTAGE FOR IMPROVEMENT 3 Bedrooms, Sitting room, Store room, Kitchen, W.C. Small Garden. ALL MAIN SERVICES, together with Brick and Slated detached Bungalow let at 12/9d per week, inclusive.

All the above properties will be offered for sale by AUCTION (unless sold previously) at the Lion Hotel, Guildford on TUESDAY, March 27, 1956.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale from the Chartered Auctioneers as above.

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HARRODS

32, 34 and 36, HANS CRESCENT, LONDON, S.W.1

Southampton, West Byfleet
Haslemere and Berkhamsted

On high ground. Enjoying a South-Westerly aspect. Within easy access to station, bus stop and shops.

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A DELIGHTFUL FREEHOLD RESIDENCE FOR SALE

Conveniently planned on 2 floors, beautifully secluded in the best residential area. 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, cloakroom. Garage (2). All main services. Picturesque easily maintained garden, tennis court, in all **ABOUT 1 ACRE**

ONLY JUST IN THE MARKET

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SURREY AND HANTS BORDERS

Handy for Fleet and Basingstoke.

ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

On two floors only. Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 4 bed and 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, complete offices.

All Co's mains, central heating.

GARAGE FOR THREE. STABLING FOR ONE.

ATTRACTIVE GARDEN with herbaceous borders, rose beds, orchard, etc.

IN ALL APPROXIMATELY 1¼ ACRES.
PRICE FREEHOLD ONLY £5,250.

HARRODS LTD., 32/36 Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. *Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 806.

RADLETT HERTS UP TO 3½ ACRES

In a very attractive situation with views over open country, yet only 1 minute to 'buses and easy reach of shops and station.

EXCELLENT MODERN (1926) HOUSE IN IMMACULATE ORDER

Lounge hall, cloakroom, 2 large reception rooms, sun lounge, breakfast room, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. *Main services.* Garage, greenhouse and garden room. Attractive garden with tennis lawn.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT ¾ ACRE,

2 acres or 3¼ acres to suit purchaser.

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HIGHEST PART OF KENT

EASY REACH OF SEVENOAKS ON A 'BUS ROUTE

In the green belt, delightful rural surroundings, lovely open views

COMPACT REGENCY RESIDENCE

3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms (h & c), 2 bathrooms. Model offices. Aga cooker. *Co's electric light, power and water. Oil fired central heating.* Good garages. Cottage. Model farmery, etc.

PARK-LIKE GROUNDS

Lawns. Kitchen garden. Fine trees. Rich pastureland in all about.

25 ACRES

For Sale Freehold. Vacant Possession

Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32/36 Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. *Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Extn.* 806 *or* 809.

GARDEN OF KENT

COUNTRY RESIDENCE, cottage, flourishing market garden pasture and woodland.

TOTAL AREA ABOUT 104 ACRES.

Fine lounge, 3 other reception rooms, 8 Bedrooms (all with h & c), 3 bathrooms.

DETACHED COTTAGE.

GARAGES.

Central heating. Main electric light, central heating.

The pleasure gardens are a feature with hard tennis court, lily pool and rockeries.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

HARRODS LTD., 32/36 Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. *Telephone: KENsington* 1490. *Ext.* 807.

CHESHIRE

Highly situation adjoining and with views over Golf Course. In delightful country yet convenient for Manchester and Stockport.

EXCEPTIONALLY WELL APPOINTED FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

3 fine reception rooms, cocktail bar, 5 bedrooms and sun lounge. Also study and 6th bedroom.

Full oil fired central heating and Co's services.

Double Garage.

Delightful Gardens.

ABOUT 1 ACRE POSSESSION

Joint Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32/36 Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*Tel. KENsington* 1490, *Ext.* 809) and KENDALL MILNE & CO., LTD, 35 King Street West, Manchester (*Tel. Deansgate* 3414).

W. HUGHES & SON

1, UNITY STREET, COLLEGE GREEN, BRISTOL.
Specialising in West of England Properties for Seven Reigns

GLOS. AND MONMOUTH BORDERS

FOR SALE

Original building 1150.
Main building 1650.
Residence reconditioned 1950

History and architecture have combined with modern craftsmanship to form this perfect home. 4 reception, 8 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Aga and electric cooking.

3 COTTAGES

GARAGE FOR 5

IMMACULATE CONDITION THROUGHOUT. 11 acres, another 80 possible. Apply Sole Agents, as above. Tel. Bristol 20710.

GOODMAN & MANN

SURREY and LONDON

SURREY COUNTRY HOUSE

WITH 4 ACRES AND CENTRAL HEATING

Waterloo by train in under half-an-hour.

On high sandy soil with garden skirting commons, particularly fine modern house enjoying sunlight and wide views.

FULL CENTRAL HEATING

Oak joinery. Tasteful decorations. Hall and cloakroom. 3 south facing reception rooms. Main suite of bed/dress/bath. 4 other bedrooms, and bathroom. Staff: 3 rooms and bath. Modern kitchen and maid's room. Double garage. Tennis lawn.

FOUR ACRES including lawns, orchard, water garden and some woodland.
JUST AVAILABLE AT A SUBSTANTIAL BUT REASONABLE PRICE.
Joint Sole Agents: GOODMAN & MANN, 33, High Street, Cobham. Cobham 3058/9. Mrs. N. C. TUFNELL, Sunninghill, Berks. Ascot 818.

BOURNEMOUTH
SOUTHAMPTON

FOX & SONS

BRIGHTON
WORTHING

WEST SUSSEX

Delightful position with fine Downland views and about 8 miles from Brighton.

Suite of bedroom, dressing room and bathroom, 3 other bedrooms (2 h. and c.), second bathroom, spacious entrance hall with large cloakroom, sun room, dining room, most attractive lounge, kitchen with Aga, conservatory. *Main water and electricity. Modern drainage. Partial central heating.* Double garage and useful outbuildings. 2 Boulton and Paul greenhouses.

Secluded and matured gardens with lawn tennis court, herbaceous borders, rhododendron and azalea garden, kitchen garden and orchard, extending to about **1¼ ACRES** (farther land up to 5½ acres available).

PRICE £6,900 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 117 & 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines).

SUSSEX COAST

Occupying a pleasant semi-rural position on the outskirts of Bexhill and having delightful views. Shops, station, etc., about 1½ miles distant.

An attractive Detached Modern House in good decorative order.

5 bedrooms, bathroom, large lounge, dining room, study, cloakroom, maid's room, kitchen.

Main electricity and water.

Modern drainage.

GARAGE

The delightful gardens and grounds are a feature of the property and comprise lawns, ornamental trees and shrubs, kitchen garden, etc., in all about **1½ ACRES**

PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 117 & 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines).

DORSET

1 mile from the market town of Wareham. 7 miles Poole Harbour.

Overlooking open country with views over Purbeck Hills and Poole Harbour.

AN ATTRACTIVE DETACHED RESIDENCE OF MOST PLEASING ELEVATION. 2 bedrooms, bathroom, sitting room 19ft. by 11ft. 9ins., dining room, cloakroom, entrance hall, kitchen. *All main services.* Garage. Good well laid out Garden.

PRICE £3,250 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

TEST VALLEY

Situated in the centre of a charming village in this famous fishing valley. Accessible for Stockbridge, Romsey, Salisbury and Southampton.

HALF TIMBERED PERIOD COTTAGE

With exposed oak beams and modern conveniences. 2 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, one with Inglenook fireplace, kitchen with stainless steel sink unit. *Main services.* Timber garage. Small garden. Low Rateable Value.

PRICE £2,300 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

WIMBORNE, DORSET

In an excellent residential neighbourhood standing high with good views to the Isle of Wight.

AN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

Solidly constructed in secluded and sheltered position. 8 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, flower room, cloakroom, kitchen. *Main electricity, gas and water. Central heating.* 2 GARAGES. Stabling and loose box. Well maintained gardens and grounds of over **1½ ACRES**

REDUCED PRICE £4,750 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

NEW FOREST VILLAGE

Centrally situated overlooking Agricultural Land, within easy reach of Southampton, Ringwood, Lyndhurst and Bournemouth.

FREEHOLD COUNTRY RESIDENCE. 5 Principal bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 excellent reception rooms, cloakroom, domestic offices with staff accommodation and bathroom. *Oil fired central heating. Main services.* Garage and stabling block. Attractive garden of about **2½ ACRES**

PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

BRIGHTON

A delightful situation on high ground and facing south

A SUPERIOR DETACHED ARCHITECT DESIGNED CHALET BUNGALOW

The property is situate within a minutes' walk of bus services to Brighton Station, the sea and town centre.

The accommodation comprises: 4 bedrooms, well-fitted bathroom with shower, cloakroom, large lounge with parquet flooring, study, well-fitted kitchen with independent boiler. Utility or breakfast room. *Part central heating.* DOUBLE GARAGE. PLEASANT WELL-MAINTAINED GARDEN.

PRICE £5,950 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 117 & 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines).

DORSET

9 miles Dorchester—10 Miles Weymouth.

A SECLUDED PROPERTY

Enjoying magnificent maritime views. Facing National Trust Land and overlooking Portland Harbour. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, sitting room 21ft. by 12ft. 6ins. Entrance hall, sun loggia, kitchen, breakfast room. *Main Electricity and Water.* The House stands on a gently sloping site, with lawns, herbaceous borders, kitchen garden. In all about **THREE-QUARTERS OF AN ACRE**

PRICE £3,000 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

W. & H. PEACOCK

8, High Street, Baldock, Herts. (Tel. 85).

NORTH HERTS

In lovely and unspoilt country yet only 5 miles Hitchin and 38 miles London on A1.

AN EXCEPTIONAL SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE

Panelled hall, cloakroom, 3 reception, ample domestic offices, 4 principal and 3 secondary bedrooms, bathroom.

Excellent outbuildings including 2 double garages, stabling, greenhouses, etc.

All services.

Charming gardens. Woodland, springs, paddock, lake. Extensive river frontages.

ABOUT 12½ ACRES. £7,950 FREEHOLD

Further particulars and viewing by appointment with the Sole Agents: Messrs. W. & H. PEACOCK, 8, High Street, Baldock, Herts.

JOHN CHURCHMAN & SONS

SOUTH STREET, HORSHAM, SUSSEX. Tel. 2547

SURREY—SUSSEX BORDER

CHARMING 16th-CENTURY HALF-TIMBERED MANOR HOUSE

Beautifully restored and modernised

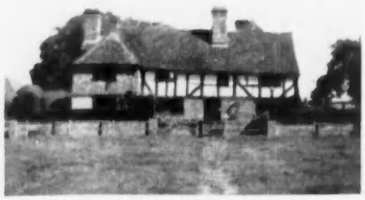
An Enchanting Old House of Great Character, in first-class order throughout and containing:

5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, 2 modern kitchens and staff room.

Main water and electricity
Septic tank drainage

2 modernised staff cottages and excellent outbuildings. 2 garages

11½ ACRES



To view by appointment with the Agents, as above.

classified properties

AUCTIONS

See also Auction column on page 453

HAMPSHIRE

Attractive Freehold Country Properties near Andover: Residence of modern design, brick with Norfolk Reed Thatch: 2 Rec. Kit. 4 Beds. Bath. Garage and 1 acre. Main El. & Water. Cen. Htg. £4,250. Recently-modernised Cottage: 2 Rec. Kit. Bath. 2 Beds. Double Garage & Garden. £2,650. Brick-built Residence with tiled roof: 3 Rec. Kit. 3 Beds. Bath. Main El. & Water. For Sale by Auction. Particulars from

A. HERBERT & SON
24 High Street, Andover.

FOR SALE

BEAULIEU, HANTS. Modern residence in superb condition, in secluded grounds of 6 acres. Accommodation of 5 beds, (h & c); 2 baths; 3 reception rooms, sun lounge, excellent domestic offices. Oil fire central heating. Garages for three. Yacht mooring. Leasehold nearly 80 years unexpired. £5,500. Apply AUSTIN & WYATT, 26, London Rd., Southampton. Tel. 26126.

CORNWALL—TRURO. Dignified Family House for sale. 4½ acres grounds including large paddock. Stabling. Elevated situation with lovely views. 3 recep., 5 bedrooms, etc. All services. £5,750.—GUNTON AND EDWARDS, Port Navas, nr. Falmouth.

DEVON-SOMERSET BORDERS. (Between Chard and Axminster.) A charming modernised, stone and thatched Country Residence in delightful position, 3 rec., cloaks., 5 bed., 2 bath. (h. and c.), model kitchen. Main electricity. Pretty garden and orchard. Garage and outbuildings, in all about 4 acres; also a Modern Bungalow, all with possession and 10 acres pasture (let). For Sale at very moderate price as a whole or separately.—Sole Agents: T. R. G. LAWRENCE & SON, Chartered Surveyors, Crewkerne (Tel. 503/4), and at Bridport and Chard.

ESSEX SUFFOLK BORDER properties. Picturesque old weaving villages and undulating countryside.—H. J. TURNER AND SON, F.A.I., Sudbury, Suffolk (Tel. 2833-4).

IRELAND. BATTERSBY & Co., Estate Agents (Est. 1815), F.A.I., Westmoreland Street, Dublin. Sporting properties and Residential Farms available for sale or letting.

MODERN superior stone Bungalow-Residence with three acres mature orchard. Freehold. Possession. £6,500.—GODDARD'S, Auctioneers, Stratford-on-Avon.

SMALL PERIOD COUNTRY COTTAGE in perfect order near Heathfield and Battle, Sussex. 2 rec. Good kitchen with AGA, 2/3 bed. Bathroom. Main elec. Charming garden with chalet, greenhouse, garage, fruitcage, etc. Surrounded by paddocks 2½ acres. Small stream. £4,500 freehold. Mortgage available. Photo. Box 9740.

ESTATES, FARMS AND SMALLHOLDINGS

DEVON (10 miles Exeter). Superior Modern (1938) Residence, first time in market. Uninterrupted views over rolling farmlands. 3 rec., Sun Loggias, 5 beds. (H & C.) 2 bath., etc. 7 acres (Mainly pasture). Garages, piggeries, poultry houses, loose boxes etc. Cottage nearly. CHERRY AND CHERRY LTD., 14 Southernhay West, Exeter.

IRELAND, Co. Meath—Excellent sporting and farming estate, freehold on approx. 300 acres (s.m.) of first-class land, in excellent heart. Most attractive Georgian residence. Total rates approx. £100 p.a. May be bought by way of transfer of shares. For further particulars apply HAMILTON AND HAMILTON (ESTATES) LTD., 17, Dawson Street, Dublin.

WING OF BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY MANOR. In lovely Ashdown Forest, Sussex. Skilfully converted stone mansion, 4 beds, imposing panelled lounge, hall-dining room, modern kitchen, entirely panelled bathroom in marble and mosaic. All services, large garden, private swimming pool, fishing and boating facilities on the estate. Price £6,500 Freehold. B. JACKSON & Co. Imperial Arcade, Brighton. Tel. 26039.

BUSINESSES AND HOTELS

HOTEL on Esplanade, Scarborough. Good going concern, newly decorated throughout, owner leaving district. Reasonable price for quick sale.—Box 9749.

OVERSEAS

For Sale

SOUTH AFRICA. 6,000 acre cattle farm. Delightful climate, undulating country, good grazing, well watered and well fenced. Large well appointed modern house, also Manager's house, gardens and orchards. 35 miles Johannesburg. Full particulars, apply Box 9732, c/o Country Life.

Estate Agents

SOUTHERN RHODESIA. If you are contemplating settling in this land of opportunity, consult THE SALISBURY BOARD OF EXECUTORS, LTD. (Established 1895). Box 21, Salisbury. Lists of all types of Farms, Businesses, Investment and Houses available. Our Real Estate Department will be pleased to help newcomers to the colony. Other services available. Trusts and Estates administered. Loans and Investments arranged. Insurance Company and other secretaryships.

TO LET

Furnished

ARGYLL. July-Aug. Modern Furnished Bungalow. 2½ double Brms. Sea-trout fishing. Boat on Loch. Col. ROBERTSON 22, Rosecroft Ave. N.W.3.

SHRAMORE LODGE, Newport, Co. Mayo. To let furnished for long or short periods. 3 bedrooms, 1 recep., kitchen and bathroom. Calor gas for cooking and heating water. Recently modernised. Fishing: own salmon and sea trout river, Lough Furness and plenty of other salmon fishing nearby. Shooting: 14,000 acres, some grouse. Keeper with lodge. Ideal place for a holiday. Apply Box 9752.

WESTERN HIGHLANDS. Furnished House near sea-loch to let fortnightly May, June, Sept. 16. Also modern Cottage on loch, free Sept. 15. Both ideal children.—SIMPSON, 57, Carlisle Road, Eastbourne.

WING of attractively situated Country Mansion House to let, fully furnished, for five years as from Whit Sunday, 1956, together with salmon fishings in River Tay.—For further particulars apply to W. FINLAYSON, Chartered Surveyor, Estates Office, Aberfeldy.

WANTED

MEDIÆVAL TUDOR MANOR, Mill or Farm House, restored or otherwise, 50/100 a. Farm, woodland. River or stream. E. Devon, Dorset, S. Som. pref.—EVANS, Trecarrell Mill, Treballett, Launceston.

NO COMMISSION REQUIRED. South or S.W. of Guildford. Munstead, Hascombe, Bramley, Shamley Green liked. A Country House of some character. 6/7 bedrooms, 3 or more reception rooms. Garages. Garden and small acreage. Substantial buyer will pay to £12,000 for a worthwhile house or might consider a property needing improvement.—Details to Purchaser's Surveyors: CLARKE, GAMMON & EMERYS, 71, High Street, Guildford. Tel. 2266/7/8.

SHEET PETERSFIELD AREA. Small Period Country House. 3 rec., 4 bed., etc. Mains services. 4 acres upwards. Stabling, paddock essential. Photographs appreciated.—Box 9750.

WANTED for client large old freehold. Thames, Chilterns, N. or W. London, or Sea. A. APPELBE, 7 New Sq., W.C.2.

WANTED furnished house in Scotland within easy reach of Airport; sandy beach and golf course, for month of June. Dogs not objected to. Box No. W.F.117, 10 Hertford Street, W.1.

WANTED FOR DEMOLITION

DEMOLITION CLEARANCE.—Watch it come down.—By SYD BISHOP & SONS, 282, Baring Rd., London, S.E.12. Tel. LEE Green 7755. Old Property bought for salvage.

FISHINGS & SHOOTINGS

WANTED for two rods first class sea-trout and salmon fishing, or alternatively, sea-trout only. When replying, please quote the best time of the year for results. Box 9741.

WANTED TO RENT

ENGLISHMAN coming on leave from India wishes rent Furnished House, Bromley, Beckenham, Chislehurst, or nearby area from July 1 for six months. At least 3 bedrooms, cutlery, crockery required. Please write to Box 9751, c/o COUNTRY LIFE.

WORCS., STAFFS., WARWICKS. Wanted to rent Unfurnished, House, Bungalow or Part Large House. Must be country. Careful tenants. Refs.—Box 9753.

FURNITURE REMOVERS AND DEPOSITORIES

HAMPTONS of New Bond Street for expert removals, storage and shipping abroad. All staff fully experienced. Depository: Ingate Place, Queenstown Road, Battersea Park, S.W.8. MACaulay 3434.

HARRODS, LTD., Barnes, S.W.13. Removals, home and abroad, furniture storage. World-famous for efficient service; reliable packing and careful storage. (Tel.: RIVerside 6615.)

HARVEY NICHOLS of Bournemouth offer one of the most comprehensive removals and storage services on the south coast. Their large and experienced staff pack quickly and with meticulous care. Their warehouse affords first-class storage for as long as you wish. And their service includes packing and shipping overseas. Estimates, without obligation, from Commercial Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 1955.

HOUSEHOLD REMOVALS ABROAD. Illustrated booklet of information, CL/104, free on request.—PITT & SCOTT, LTD., 1-3, St. Paul's Churchyard, London, E.C.4. Passages arranged.

JOSEPH MAY, LTD., the firm with the splendid reputation, cut removal costs with their Return Loads. Estimates free.—Whitfield Street, W.1. (Tel. MUSeum 2411.)

PICKFORDS. Removers and storers. Local, distance or overseas removals. Complete service. First-class storage. Branches in all large towns. Head Office: 102, Blackstock Road, London, N.4 (Tel.: CAN. 4444).

DIRECTORY ESTATE AGENTS, AUCTIONEERS, SURVEYORS AND VALUERS

AMERSHAM, GREAT MISSENDEN, CHESHAM. The lovely Chiltern country.—PRETTY & ELLIS, Amersham (Tel. 27), Gt. Missenden (2363), and Chesham (16).

BERKS, BUCKS and surrounding Counties. Town and Country Properties of all types.—MARTIN & POLE (incorporating WATTS & SON), 23, Market Place, Reading (Tel. 50266, 4 lines), and at Caversham, Wokingham and High Wycombe.

BEXHILL, COODEN AND DISTRICT. Agents STAINES & Co. (Est. 1895), Devonshire Road, Bexhill (Tel. 340).

BUCKS. Details of Residential Properties now available on application to HETHERINGTON & SECRETT, F.A.I., Estate Offices, Gerrards Cross (Tel. 2691 & 2540) and Beaconsfield (Tel. 249 and 1045), and at London, W.5.

CHANNEL ISLANDS. English Agents with local offices. RUMSEY & RUMSEY, Bournemouth, and 14 branch offices.

COTSWOLDS.—Also Berks, Oxon and Wilts. HOBBS & CHAMBERS, Chartered Surveyors, Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents, Cirencester (Tel. 62-63), and Faringdon (Tel. 2113).

DEVON and Exeter and District.—WHITTON & LAING, Auctioneers, Estate Agents and Surveyors, 20, Queen Street, Exeter (Tel. 59395-6).

DORSET AND SOMERSET.—PETER SHERSTON & WYLAM, Sherborne (Tel. 61). Properties of character. Surveys, Valuations.

DEVON and S.W. COUNTIES. For selected list of PROPERTIES.—RIPPON BOSWELL & Co., F.A.I., Exeter (Tel. 59378).

EAST DEVON COAST AND COUNTRY. Properties of all types.—THOMAS SANDERS & STAFF, Sidmouth (Tel. ONE), Axminster (Tel. 3341), and Ottery St. Mary (Tel. 380).

ENGLISH LAKES. Auctioneers, Valuers, Land Agents and Surveyors. Est. 1841.—PROCTER & BITHRECK, Lake Road, Windermere (Tel. 688), and at Lancaster and London.

ESSEX AND SUFFOLK. Country Properties and Farms.—C. M. STANFORD AND SON, Colchester (Tel. 3165, 4 lines).

EXETER AND DISTRICT.—ANDREW REDFERN, F.A.I., 1, High Street, Exeter.

GRIBBLE, BOOTH & SHEPHERD specialise in the small Period Country House, Farms and Cottages of character throughout the south-western counties.—17, Hendford, Yeovil (Tel. 434).

HAMPSHIRE and adjoining counties.—CURTIS & WATSON, Auctioneers, Surveyors, Land Agents and Valuers, 4, High Street, Alton (Tel. 2261-2), and the Estate Offices, Hartley Wintney (Tel. 296-7).

HAMPSHIRE and borders. Town and Country Properties, Smallholdings and Farms.—Consult PARNELL, JORDY AND HARVEY, Estate Agents, Basingstoke. Tel. 36.

IRELAND. For all types of property in the country and city suburbs. We have comprehensive lists.—Send your requirements to HAMILTON AND HAMILTON (ESTATES) LIMITED, Dublin.

ISLE OF WIGHT. For Town and Country Properties, Houses, Hotels, etc.—Apply GROUNDSELLS, Estate Agents, Newport, Wight (Tel. 2171).

JERSEY, CHANNEL ISLANDS.—E. S. TAYLOR, LTD., 18, Hill Street, St. Helier. Agents for superior residential properties.

JERSEY. F. LE GALLAIS & SON, oldest Est. House Agents, Bath Street, St. Helier.

KINGSTON, COOMBE HILL AND DISTRICT. Comprehensive register of all available properties gladly forwarded on request.—A. G. BONSOR, STEVENS & Co., 82, Eden Street, Kingston-on-Thames (Tel. KINgston 0022). Sales, Surveys, Valuations.

MARKET HARBOROUGH AND DISTRICT. Properties available and required. Valuations, Sales.—HOLLOWAY, PRICE & Co. (R. G. GREEN, F.R.I.C.S., F.A.I.), Chartered Auctioneers, Market Harborough (Tel. 2411).

OXFORDSHIRE & NORTH BERKSHIRE.—BUCKELL & BALLARD, 16, Cornmarket Street, Oxford (Tel. 4151), 3, St. Martin's Street, Wallingford (Tel. 3205). Particulars on request.

SIDMOUTH AND EAST DEVON. Coast and Country. Detailed, reliable particulars.—Messrs. SANDERS, Devonshire House, Sidmouth (Tel. Sidmouth 41, 1341).

SOMERSET, DORSET, DEVON, for details of Residential and Agricultural properties consult R. B. TAYLOR & SONS, 16, Princes Street, Yeovil (Tel. 2074-6), and at Sherborne, Bridgwater and Exeter.

SOUTH DEVON. For coast-line and country properties.—ERIC LLOYD, F.A.I., 89, Fleet Street, Torquay (Tel. 7062).

SOUTH DEVON. Residences, Farms, Hotels.—G. M. TOMPKINS & Co., Kingsbridge (Tel. 2403).

SURREY. Property in all parts of the county.—W. K. MOORE & Co., Surveyors, Carshalton (Tel. Wallington 5577, 4 lines).

SUSSEX and ADJOINING COUNTIES.—JARVIS & Co., of Haywards Heath, specialists in high-class Residences and Estates, many of which are solely in their hands (Tel. 700).

SUSSEX COAST. Bexhill and Cooden Beach. Seaside and Country Properties.—GORDON GREEN & WEBBER, F.A.I., 9-11, Sea Road, Bexhill (Tel. 410-411).

SUSSEX. Specialists in Country Residences and Estates throughout the County.—BRADLEY & VAUGHAN of Haywards Heath (Tel. 91, 3 lines).

TORQUAY AND S. DEVON. For Town and Country Properties.—WAYCOTTS, 5, Fleet Street, Torquay (Tel. 4333).

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. Between London and the coast. For houses, land, etc.—BRACKETT & SONS (Est. 1828), 27-29, High Street, Tunbridge Wells (Tel. 1153).

LIVESTOCK

CHINCHILLA—the Royal Fur. A fascinating, profitable farming pursuit. South American pedigree stock at reasonable prices. Inspection invited. Tel.: Nazeing 2282.—Box 9161.

POODLES Black Miniature. Born 27th Dec. Champion stock. Show standard, from 18 gns. GIP. 3139.

VULCAN KENNELS—See Educational column.

MINK

MINK. Have you considered breeding this profitable animal as a business or sideline? Full details of this quality Gothier mink herd and 8-page "Introduction to Mink Breeding" FREE from W. T. UDALL, National Mink Farm, Wimborne, Dorset.

WOODCROFT MINK FARM, STOCKLAND, DEVON (Ma). Robin Sanders offers limited bred females as long as they last. 66 awards since 1952. Recent Annual Pelt Show in London. Breath of Spring Silverblu Males 4 in first 5 including the Class Champion. Silverblu Males 4 in first 6. Good stock can produce good pelts.

classified announcements

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 454

MISCELLANEOUS

APPLETON'S Delicious Hand-raised Pork Pies. Famous for over 80 years.—T. APPLETON AND SONS, Pork Butchers, Market Place, Ripon, Yorks.

GENEALOGIST and Record Searcher undertakes genealogical research. Armorial bearings verified and applied for.—A. W. D. MITTON, The Dungeon, 239, Earl's Court Road, London, S.W.5. Tel.: FRObisher 3139.

HERALDRY: Fine Drawings of Arms, Crests, etc., on Vellum. Searches made. Moderate Fees.—Battersby, Chittoe, Chippenham, Wilts.

HOMESPUNS AND TARTANS. Genuine Scottish Homespuns in attractive designs and authentic clans. 57 Ins. wide, from 20/- per yard. Ranges include District Checks and all the popular Homespun patterns. Send today for samples and free brochure to BALLATER TWEED WAREHOUSE, Dept. C 1, Ballater, Scotland.

MINIATURES exquisitely painted from any photographs, 5½ gns.—VALERIE SERRES, 32, Guildford St., Brighton, 1, Sussex. (Est. 1760).

WANTED Antique Door Handle. Suitable Jacobean Front Door.—Box 9716.

WROUGHT IRON Entrance and Garden Gates by Suffolk craftsmen, hand-made to any special size. Railings, firescreens, designs and price from S. C. PEARCE & SONS, Ltd., Bredfield, Woodbridge, Suffolk. Tel.: Woodbridge 514. Est. 30 years.

1952 4 Door "Aga" Cooker for sale. Seen Chichester.—Write Box 9734.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE London Area. Sparta Carpet in perfect condition; overall beige colour with pink centre; 20ft. x 14ft. 6in. £119 o.n.o. A figured Walnut Dining Room Suite of exceptional quality and in perfect condition, comprising 8 upholstered chairs, 8ft. 6in. oval dining table, 1 large sideboard, 1 smaller serving sideboard with black marble top. £375 o.n.o. Inspection invited.—Box 9756.

WANTED

CAN ANYONE offer regulation Khaki Trench Coat. Chest 36 in. length 48 in.—Box 9755.

MANN & SHACKLETON pay fair prices for ladies', gentlemen's and children's discarded or misfit garments and furs, also household linen, curtains, silver and plated articles, jewellery of every description. Offer or cheque by return for consignment sent.—FERN HOUSE, Norbiton, Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.

OLD Inlaid and coloured marble table tops, marble mantelpieces, dog grates and cast-iron interiors. Prices, particulars and where seen, etc.—Box 9626.

SELL TO THE SPECIALIST, WILLIAM TRUSCOTT, pays exceptional prices for Roman, Egyptian & Eastern antiquities. Also miniatures, cameos, jewellery & curios. Cheque by return.—1, The Avenue, London, W.4.

GUNS

WANTED

ALL KINDS of antique, obsolete, and modern Firearms and accessories, powder flasks.—SUTCLIFFE, Ing Hey, Briercliffe, Burnley, Lancs.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 453

Lean-To. Any size to fit any space exactly. Roof and side ventilators, sliding doors, guttering and downspout.

Junior. 12 ft. x 8 ft. Rustless alloy construction on 2 ft. 6 in. high wall. Two roof vents, double sliding doors. **£40.17.6**

Superior. 12 ft. x 9 ft. Rustless alloy construction. Glass to base rails. Two roof vents, double sliding doors. **£51.3.3.**

Super Aristocrat. Length from 7 ft. 9 in., extendible in 7 ft. 8 in. sections, each fitted roof and side ventilator. **£51.0.2.**

Plant Houses. Any length, 12 ft. 3 in. or 16 ft. 4 in. wide. Any height to eaves. Standard ventilation. Prices from **£108.19.2.**

Waldor

– best greenhouse on earth!

Waldor rustless aluminium alloy greenhouses are easy to erect, give maximum light, need no maintenance—not even painting, ever! Better crops, earlier. *Post the coupon for details.*

SEND COUPON FOR FULL DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE
Post today

To **Dept. 40, WALDOR TOOL & GAUGE CO. LTD., DROITWICH, WORCS. Tel. 2198.**

Please send FREE your new illustrated brochures describing Waldor Greenhouses

Name .....

Address .....

.....

If interested in any particular type please state here

THOUSANDS of acres--

Every year many thousands of acres of coarse grass and rough undergrowth are cleared and tidied with the Allen. However rough the ground or tough the growth the Allen Motor Scythe, with its powerful motor, will take it in its stride without fuss or trouble.

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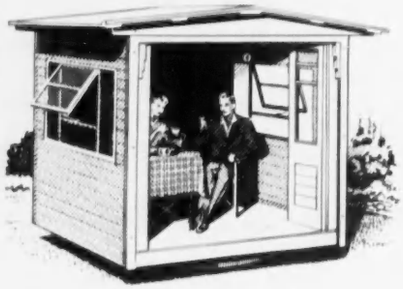

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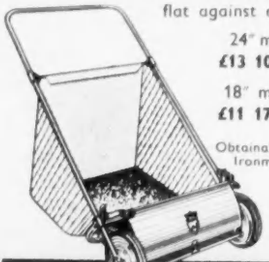

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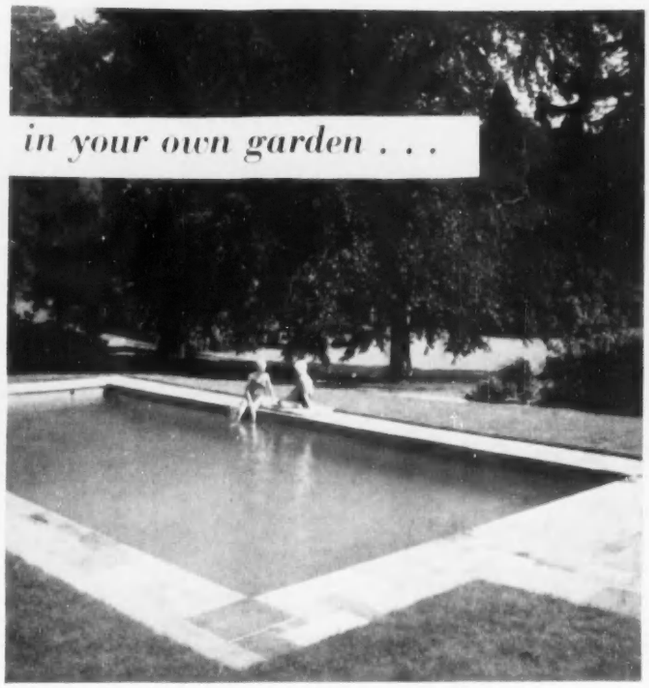

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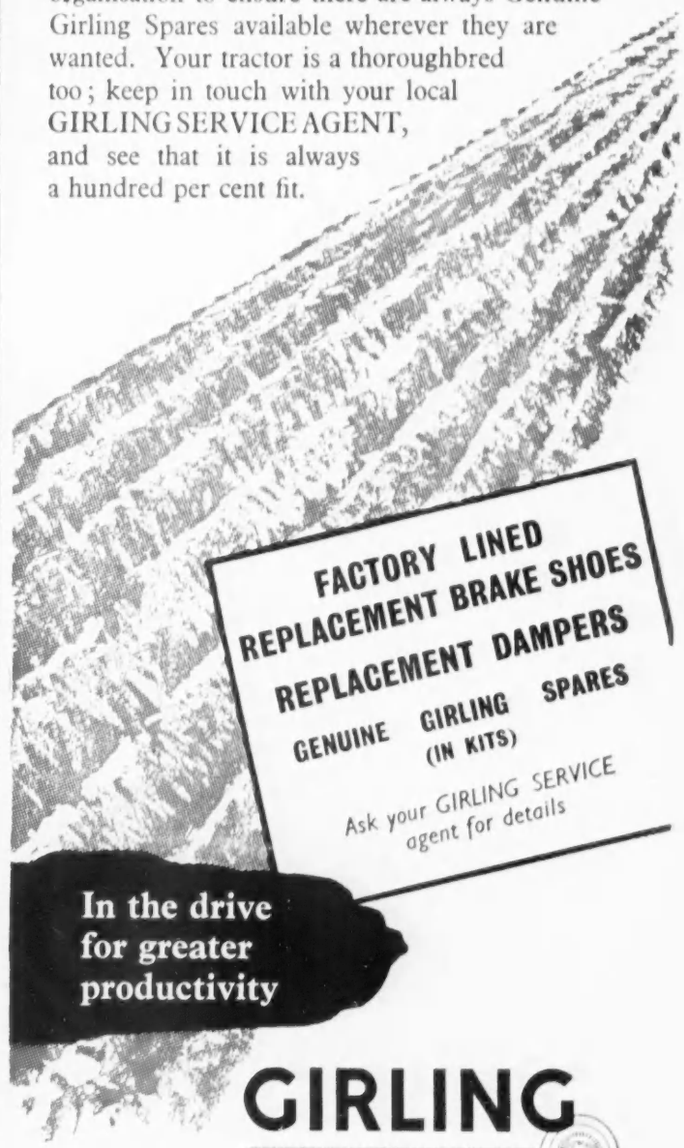

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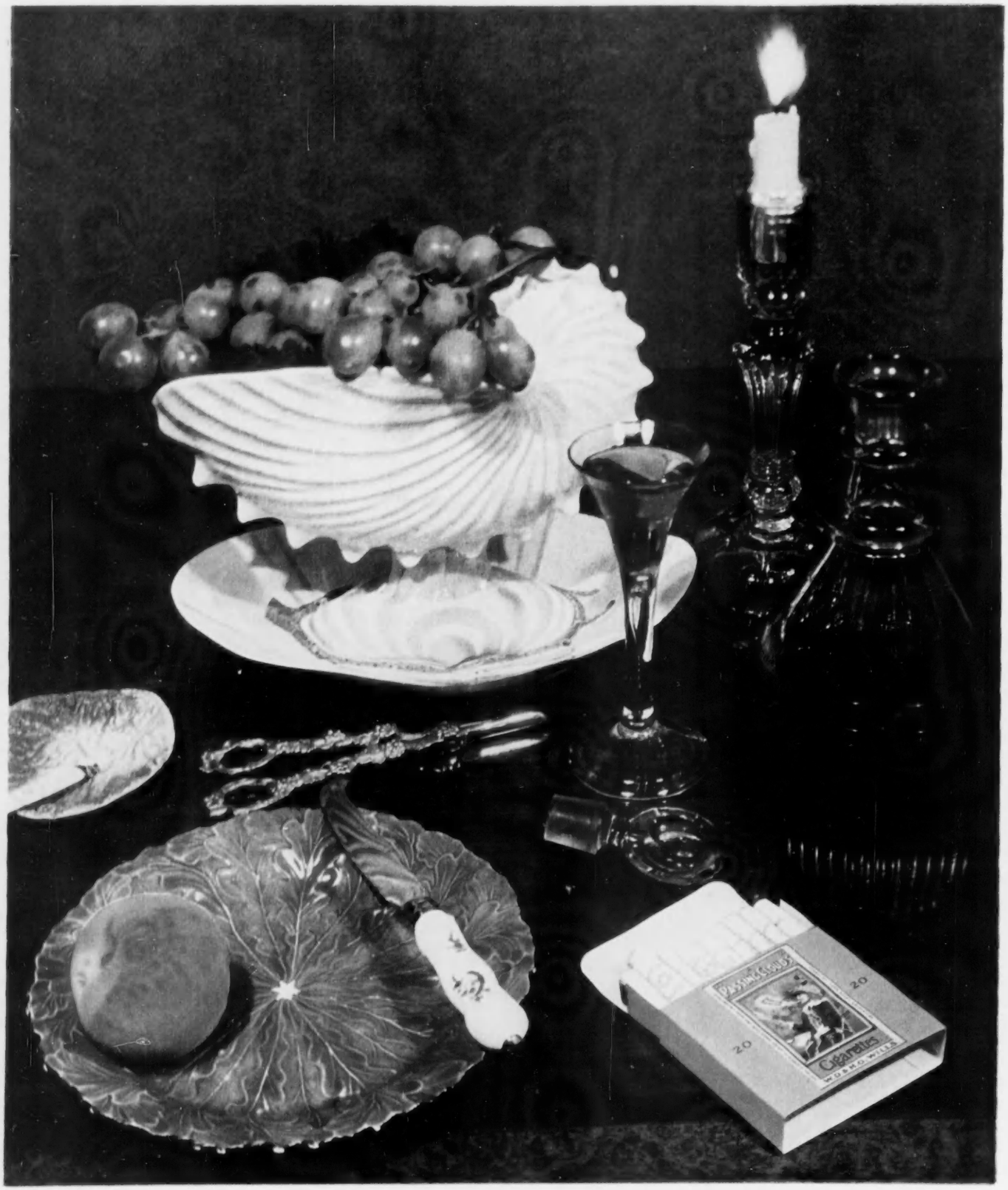

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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXIX No. 3086 MARCH 8, 1956

Yevonde

MISS VERONICA MARY RUTTLEDGE

Miss Veronica Mary Ruttledge, younger daughter of Major and Mrs. R. F. Ruttledge, of Cloonee, Ballinrobe, Co. Mayo, Ireland, is to be married on April 30 to Captain Lord Edward FitzRoy, son of the Duke of Grafton and the late Lucy Duchess of Grafton, of Euston Hall, Thetford, Norfolk

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EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK

IT would be a pity if Mr. Duncan Sandys's announcement that he intends to reverse his predecessor's decision concerning the Exmoor National Park were to be taken as a precedent, and should lessen the prestige of the National Parks Commission or cool the ardour of those already constituted Joint Executive Boards—the Peak Board is a case in point—which are carrying out the intentions of the Act. The National Parks Act provides that where a National Park extends into more than one administrative county, it must be administered by a Joint Executive Board, unless the Minister is satisfied that this would be inexpedient in the interests of the efficient administration of the park. In that case he may waive this requirement. If he does so, a Joint Advisory Committee must be appointed. More than a year ago Mr. Macmillan, then Minister of Housing and Local Government, decided that in accordance with the Act, the Exmoor National Park proposed by the National Parks Commission should be administered by a Joint Executive Board. Mr. Duncan Sandys has now reversed that decision and therefore a Joint Advisory Committee takes its place, and the business of administration is left in the hands of the constituent county councils.

At the time of Mr. Macmillan's original decision the problem was not a new one. It had faced him in North Wales, where he had agreed to an experimental arrangement for three years whereby the three counties of Caernarvonshire, Denbighshire and Merioneth were each to have its own special Planning Committee to administer the Snowdonia Park. In the case of Exmoor, however, the Minister stood firm by the Act. Much opposition was exhibited at the time by the county councils of both Somerset and Devon, but the Minister decided that he could find no special reasons for thinking a Joint Board inexpedient. Mr. Sandys has now come to a different conclusion, and announces his reasons in terms very similar to those used by the two county councils eighteen months ago. The councils, he says, have pointed out that Exmoor, besides being one of the smallest of National Parks, is also one of the most remote from large centres of population, that a good deal of it is in the ownership of the National Trust, and that the Hobhouse Report itself has stated that the area "is happily free from serious problems." Relations between the two county councils were cordial and there was no reason why they should not co-operate in protecting Exmoor in the future as they had done in the past.

These are the local arguments, and the Minister has now accepted them against the strongly expressed advice of the National Parks Commission. The real trouble is, of course, the cost—or assumed cost—of administration. As Lord Hylton, the chairman of the Devon County Council, said in these pages last year, "They offer us this expensive gift on a plate, but leave us to pay the bill." There may be a good deal of pure cussedness, of local resistance to interference from the centre, behind such a statement; but the National Parks Commission have certainly been urging for a long time that the duties of the existing planning authorities under the Act should be made easier and simpler by grants from the National Land Fund. According to Sir Patrick Abercrombie, the county councils first ask for money and then, when it is offered them, refuse to accept it. However, perhaps a gleam of sunshine is cast by the fact that the first act of the Snowdonia Park Advisory Committee (set up by Order in 1953) was to appoint Sir Patrick as its consultant. Perhaps the Exmoor Park Advisory Committee will be able to find, in Somerset or Devon, an equally sound supporter of the National Park idea.

PAIRING PARTRIDGES

AN icy wind is tearing
Through woodlands grey and bare;
But partridges are pairing
And spring is in the air.

The month that trails before us
The rags of winter sings
An optimistic chorus;
The whirr of mating wings.

A dust of snow is lying
Upon the purple plough;
But partridges are flying
In plump brown couples now.

The coveys have divided
The cycle's secrets bring
To land still winter-tided
The miracle of spring.

J. PHOENICE.

WHERE ARE THE FROGS ?

A RECENT television appearance by that great German naturalist Mr. Heinz Sielmann, in collaboration with the equally knowledgeable Mr. Peter Scott, seems to have revived the question many people were asking two or three years ago—where are our frogs and toads? Are they in danger of extinction? To judge from the letters we have received there is a general impression that they are, and that the chief causes are the expanding use of poisonous chemicals in agriculture and horticulture and improved methods of drainage. It may be remembered that in September, 1953, we published a detailed investigation of the subject by Dr. Malcolm Smith, a leading authority, who expressed the view that the shortage was due to the demands of hospitals and other teaching centres which use them for experimental purposes. He estimated that at least 150,000 frogs and tens of thousands of toads are used every year in this way. These are large figures, but so are the reproduction rates of each species. Frogs lay from 1,200 to 2,300 eggs in the spawning season, and toads from 3,000 to 4,000, and although the natural mortality rates are also high there is no reason at present to fear the extinction of either—although such comparative rarities as the natterjack toad may be threatened. It should be remembered that local conditions can often give a misleading impression of the general situation, and that unsuitable weather can have very noticeable, but temporary, effects. However, as frogs spawn in March and toads in April, every observer will soon have the opportunity of making his own investigations.

"YE GREEN GIRDLE"

ONE of the grand achievements of history—the forced march in 1066 of King Harold's Saxons from Stamford Bridge to Battle—is to be tested out on the Fosse Way by a party of Surrey walkers clad in chain mail. This exercise in historical reconstruction, which the B.B.C. is sponsoring, might be extended with no less edification to one of history's great failures: by setting a party of, say, Middlesex commuters clad in trunk hose to reconstruct a map of the "green belt" which Queen Elizabeth I failed, unfortunately, to impose in 1580 "within three miles from any of the gates of the City of London." We reckon that if this proclamation, the text of which the Town Planning Institution has circulated, had been given effect, there would now be more or less continuous parks from the confines of the City and Westminster to a circle of "new towns" represented by Hammersmith, Hampstead, Islington, Tottenham and West Ham north of the Thames, and to Battersea, Lewisham and Blackheath on the south. The Queen's reason was that "such great multitudes, a great part very poor, are brought to inhabit and (be) in a sort smothered in one house or small tenement, it must needs follow if any plague should enter, the same would spread itself through all other parts of the realm"—as duly took place. Tele-visual demonstration of that Elizabethan might-have-been would, in all seriousness, serve to modify the criticisms sometimes directed at those "jurisdictions and officers" who still take measures against the "many inconveniences seen already and greater of necessity to follow."

FARMERS' HOPES AND FEARS

FARMERS have been passing through an anxious time while the annual farm price review has been in progress. Their hopes and fears were expressed, by implication if not directly, in the speeches at the annual dinner of the National Farmers' Union in London last week. The farmers were proud to have the Duke of Edinburgh as their chief guest, and he twitted them happily. His landowning interest and the cost of maintaining buildings for the tenants of the Royal Estates made him hope that the price review would go well for farmers, so that the Royal farms in hand would yield sufficient profit to cover the outlay on the farms that are let. But at the same time the Duke sympathised with those farmers who have to pay surtax, and must be concerned that the calls on the taxpayer through the agricultural subsidies should be kept down. The general opinion is that this year's negotiations have been well handled, and while the outcome may not be wholly satisfactory to all farmers, notably those who incur heavy cost in winter milk production, the important matter is that farmers should know where they stand and be able to judge in terms of future prices how it will pay them best to expand or modify their lines of production. It will be a great boon to agriculture and to taxpayers if the Government will follow up this immediate price review with a firm declaration on future trends in the price guarantee policy.

REFORMING LEAP YEAR

THE calendar presents for many of us rather a puzzling problem with which we wrestle in vain. We may not be quite so much puzzled as were our ancestors in 1752, when the Gregorian Calendar was adopted in Great Britain, and mobs, believing themselves robbed, assembled in the streets shouting "Give us back our eleven days." Still, we now can quite understand about leap year and should be rather glad to see the end of it. So, without altogether grasping what precisely he would be at, we incline to sympathise with a certain Presbyterian pastor in Buffalo, the Rev. George W. Walker. He wants to make this present leap year of 1956 the last until the year 2000, which he regards as a good, round, propitious year for beginning again. For the more elderly of us this may mean a satisfactory end of the problem once and for all, but those who are now young will have to face it again in 44 years. Mr. Walker thinks our present rule, which makes an average year consist of 365 and 97 four hundredths of a day, is neither simple nor accurate. If we desire to be really accurate for thousands of years to come, he suggests a rule giving a leap year every fourth year unless the number is divisible by 120. Here is some capital arithmetical fun for those who like it, but it won't get rid of those tiresome leap year jokes.

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By IAN NIALL

THE thing about having a hobby such as bee-keeping is that one must have time to devote to it and must be interested in it above all else. I can say this of fly-fishing. I never really got to terms with the bees, apart from managing one or two swarms and imagining that because they didn't sting me I had some power over them. The bees proved disappointing in respect of this little conceit. They remained docile when they swarmed, it is true, but they resented me. I could go up to the hive willing the bees not to sting me, but they were quite unco-operative. It was not exactly a heart-breaking matter when the winter of '54-55 put us out of bee-keeping and made ornaments of the beehives. When two or three of the hives were occupied by new swarms we didn't raise an eyebrow, and forgot all that old nonsense about swarms of bees in May being worth a load of hay. The equipment was stored and we hardened our hearts against feeding the swarms this winter. Let them take their chance. If they had the stuff of real bees in them they would survive. If they lacked it they could turn up their toes.

We had reached that stage when the man from the Association called. It was November and, like fly-fishermen, in the off-season bee-keepers talk bees and stimulate each other with tales of record seasons and hundreds and hundreds of pounds of first-class honey. It is all part of the game. We sat and talked about stock and the state of the country's bees. Ours were dead. We were not alone, said our visitor. It had happened to some of the best bee-keepers. If we had nothing left we should think about setting up again. It seemed unfair to conceal the fact that we had three young colonies. We confessed and entered the fold, paying our subscription and receiving in return a look that said he had never doubted our devotion to bee-keeping.

* * *

ONCE a bee-keeper, always a bee-keeper. There may be some truth in it. My grandfather couldn't get along without his bees. He never made a penny from them, but at times he ran miles after swarms and made his family join the mad chase with all the weapons for bringing bees back to the stable. He loved his bees, and when they crawled down his collar and walked across his chest he would gently reach into the inside of his shirt and bring them out with a touching tenderness to lay them on the window-sill, where they recovered. Woe betide anyone who inadvertently squashed one of those bees! They were as sacred as sacred cows and free to stalk over their owner's brow or entangle themselves in his beard. We thought about this when the man left with our subscription tucked away in his wallet. Bee-keeping can get hold of a man whether he wants it to or not. With some people it may be fishing or the product of the distillery that gets larger than life. With others it is bees.

Now that the snow has gone the bees should be moving a little, if only to talk drowsily among themselves, but there is no sound from the three boxes we knew to be occupied. We are back at the same place as last year, wondering if we have any bees at all. Once we are sure we are rid of them the thing to do would be to chop up the hives as quickly as possible before another lot of honey-eaters chooses us to swarm upon.

* * *

AS though to keep the ball rolling, there came a letter on the subject of bees and bee-keeping from an elderly lady who has now given up the business, not because she was unsuccessful but because her age prevents her from working her hives. "I once sold a hive to a neighbouring vicar," she writes, "and he came over in his car to fetch it. It was all ready shut up the evening before, and we put it carefully into the back seat of his car. Unfortunately we didn't notice that the little door shifted slightly, enough for one bee at a time to get out. Then we went in to tea, and he said he must start for home soon as he had a Church Council meeting at 6.30. When we came out, we found to our horror that the car was full of excited bees and that it was impossible for anyone to get in. What were we to do? As bees always go home when it gets dark, I said the only thing was to make it night in the car, so we covered it all over with rugs and waited hopefully. But it took time, and when I was able to open the car door, as almost every bee was back safe in bed, the poor man was late for his meeting.

"One Sunday morning I realised that one hive was on the point of swarming and it was sunny and hot. As I was the organist of our church I couldn't stay and watch the bees. The only thing was to make it rain, so I got a syringe and watered the hive well, and then put an umbrella over it to keep off the hot sun. It was quite effective. They came out in the afternoon and I got the swarm safely.

"The greatest number of stings I ever had was 30 on my legs, when I stupidly dropped part of a hive. I didn't feel very well that day, but was all right the next morning. I usually never feel a sting after half an hour, but I don't like wasp stings, which I feel for days. The great thing with bees is to avoid the first sting, as the other bees smell it and you may get several more round it as they recognise you as an enemy."

* * *

HOW hysterical rooks can get at times! I saw an instance of it the other week-end when I was walking up a lane close to a farm and noticed a number of rooks flying agitatedly in circles, cawing over something in the field. I couldn't see at once just what they were getting worked up about, but I expected to find it was an owl or perhaps a cat with an injured bird in its mouth. At length I found a spot where I could peer into the field and saw what I took to be a fox standing on a little knoll. The birds were flying very close and the fox stood motionless, far too motionless for it to have been alive. I got up on to the bank for a better view and saw that the "fox" was a child's toy, a sort of horse with a crude shape. It had no ears at all, but the colouring was very like that of a fox. It was evidently made of something like cowhide. Whatever the maker of the toy thought, the birds had decided that it was an enemy. The news had spread long before I arrived, for I noticed that every tree round about held a number of black birds that had worked themselves into a rage and grown tired, although they were still capable of renewing the attack, for sometimes twenty came at the fox and sometimes twice as many.

* * *

PROBABLY the farmer's small son had trundled his toy into the field and left it there. Before I had gone very far along the lane all the birds took the air, and I looked back to see the farmer's wife plodding out to bring the toy in. The rooks flew round for a little while. Some of them perched again, but their talk was the idle talk of the crowd after the excitement has passed and in five minutes they had disbanded. What a good bait or lure that toy would have made for anyone troubled by birds on a field of young turnips! It had something about it that escaped my eye but agitated the rooks. There is a great deal of difference between scarecrows and lures and decoys, but I think a stuffed animal or bird is the best method of keeping the birds excited. The body of a crow left in a hen-run always brings a great circus of mourners or gossips, and I think that even when one shoots a crow in the heat of anger, perhaps over the theft of an egg or a young chick, the distress that it causes the rest of the crow kind is enough to make even a hard-hearted poultry-keeper a little ashamed.

* * *

"I WAS much interested to read of the cure for warts that employs fasting saliva," says a reader who lives in Cumberland, "as I too have effected such a cure twice. Many years ago I had a most disfiguring collection of seven warts on the last knuckle of my left hand. So ugly were they that I had to cover them with a bandage. After many so-called cures I was advised to apply 'fasting saliva.' This I did, with much faithfulness, and the final result was the complete disappearance of all the warts, although I still carry the white marks they made. About a year ago another wart appeared on the middle knuckle of my right hand and became quite large and unsightly. This I treated in the same way, and it has disappeared. My grandfather used to charm them with a straw, but I favour the way with saliva." Another letter came from a Buckinghamshire correspondent who said: "When I was a child I had a large wart on the back of my ankle. My father said he would cure it. He did so, by the method you mention, the wart soon disappearing." These instances, with the case I mentioned earlier, leave me in no doubt that a wart can be cured without pain, but I wonder what the medical profession makes of it.

Ian Meiklejohn

SHOES FOR RACE-HORSES

THE GROWTH OF RIVERS

Written and Illustrated by **ALEX J. BOYD**

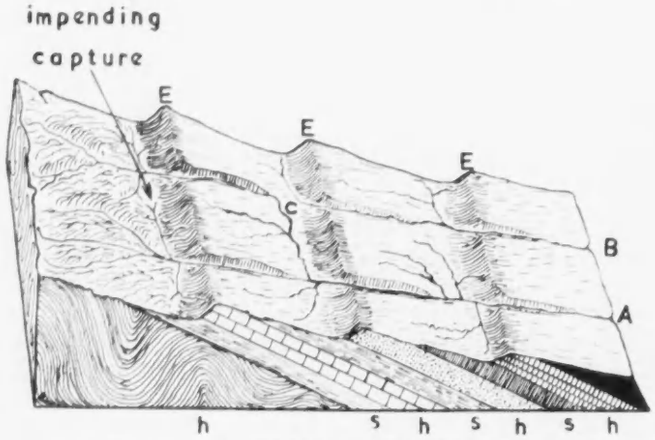
ONE of the problems about which the ancient Greeks delighted to speculate was the origin of the water by which rivers were maintained. They would not allow that the supply from rainfall was adequate, but alleged instead that mysterious underground reservoirs were the main source of replenishment. Even the Roman Lucretius contended that "as the water enters the sea from the land, so it must trickle into the land out of the briny gulf. The brine is filtered out, and the main bulk of water flows back to reassemble in full at the fountainhead." Not until 1674 was the question solved when a French scientist, Perrault, proved that the rainfall of the upper Seine was far more than sufficient to keep the stream flowing and that here was a principle that applied to all other rivers as well. To this rule glacier-fed streams are no exception, ice and snow being merely other forms of moisture derived from the atmosphere.

A river system may be defined as a series of arborescent channels which collect the rainfall from the adjoining slopes of higher ground. But here another misconception persisted. Geologists for a long time believed that valleys were due to convulsions of nature, and it was another Frenchman, Desmarest, working on the volcanic region of Auvergne, who showed that valleys have been carved out by the rivers themselves. It is true that such aristocrats as the Amazon, Congo, or Mississippi flow in natural basins and find their position and destiny prepared for them. But the vast majority of rivers are more plebeian; they have to set to work on their environment and develop their own drainage systems.

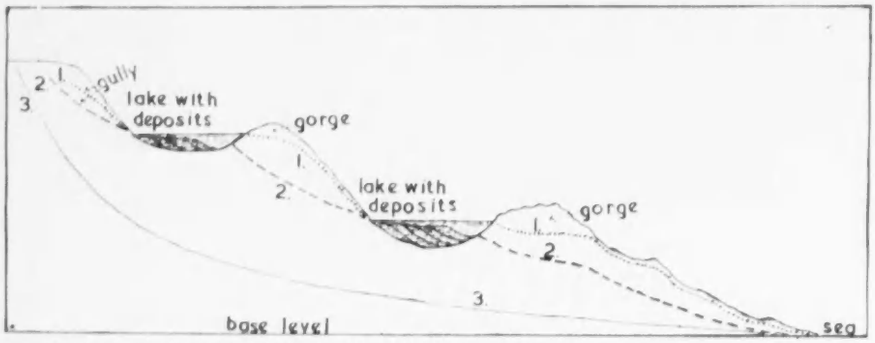
To follow the history of an average river system let us assume the gradual upheaval of a block of the earth's crust from the bed of the sea. This block will consist of several layers of sediment, deposited by pre-existing rivers, and varying in hardness according to the material from which it was derived (Fig. 1). Let us also assume that the block is tilted and that the highest part of the tilt eventually reaches a height of several thousand feet above sea-level. As soon as the land emerges from the waters it is attacked by weathering and erosion and the higher it rises the more intensely is it affected. Perhaps nowhere is the power of these agencies better exemplified than in the towering rock pinnacles and serrated walls of the Dolomite Alps.

Now for the whole of its history it is the task of a river, in which it is aided by weathering, to lower the level of the land through which it flows. Initially, a river developing on such a tilted block will be fast-flowing and the results of its velocity will be chiefly erosion and the carrying away of broken-up material. A river erodes by two methods: by the solvent action of the water itself and by the scouring and impact of the boulders, pebbles, sand and mud which are being transported. These latter may be regarded as the "tools" of the river by which it excavates its valley, deepens its bed and in time cuts its way through all obstacles that lie across its path. An array of such "tools" can be seen in Fig. 3, marking the course of a stream which, though now dry, has used these and their like to dig its channel from the mouths of the caves to the level we see it to-day. Generally, a valley is sloped and widened by the aid of tributaries, such as can be seen to the west of the caves, but, when the erosion is so rapid and severe that the wearing-down of the sides cannot keep pace with it, a vertical-walled gorge is the result (Fig. 4).

The greater the velocity the greater the solid material or "load" that a river can carry. Consequently, the transport of heavy boulders and pebbles is characteristic either of a young river or of a river near its source where the current is fastest. It has been determined, for instance, that in the River Po pebbles and gravel are found for about 140 miles below Turin, sand along the next 100 miles, and silt and mud in the last 110 miles. At the same time



1.—DIAGRAM SHOWING THE FLOW OF TWO RIVERS, A AND B, FROM THEIR SOURCES TO THE SEA. E, escarpment; h, hard rock; s, soft rock; c, capture by river A of headwaters of river B



2.—DIAGRAM ILLUSTRATING THE EARLY HISTORY OF A RIVER. Dotted line (1), profile of a young river; broken line (2), intermediate stage; solid line (3), mature profile

3.—VALLEY OF THE CAVES, ASSYNT, SUTHERLAND, SHOWING THE ACTION OF RIVERS IN A LIMESTONE COUNTRY. The caves C1, C2 and C3 are the original exits of the river in the Ice Age; C4 is a later exit when the ice receded. The sink-holes, S, may mark the present underground course of the river

4.—GORGE ON THE RIVER INVER, SUTHERLAND. The vertical walls are due to rapid erosion

the pebbles and gravel themselves get steadily worn away, the broken-off particles going to increase the sand and mud borne seaward. The amount of material thus carried by rivers is enormous and, as a consequence, the regions which they drain are slowly worn down. It has been calculated that about 8,000 million tons of the earth's surface are conveyed by rivers to the sea every year, which means on the average a lowering of their drainage basins by one foot every 9,000 years. Locally, of course, this rate is far from representative. The Irrawaddy basin is being rapidly lowered by one foot in 400 years, but in Siberia, that vast country of sluggish rivers, more than 40,000 years will be necessary to bring about the same amount of denudation.

Rainfall round the crest of our tilted block will initiate a series of converging streams which, avoiding the more resistant rocks, will unite to form an approximately straight course and run down the slope to the sea. All rivers work backwards, like a saw, cutting their headwaters deeper and farther back into the hillsides, but the main task of a young river is to smoothe out the irregularities of its course. It originally presents a profile like that shown by the dotted line (1) in Fig. 2. Hollows are flooded to form lakes which are characteristic of a young river but are geologically short-lived. Not only is their level being continuously reduced by downcutting at their exit but they are soon filled up with material deposited by incoming streams. The Rhone, for example, owing to rock-powder in suspension, enters Lake Geneva milky-green but leaves it crystal-clear and free from sediment. In time therefore all that remains of a lake is the flat bed through which the river flows.

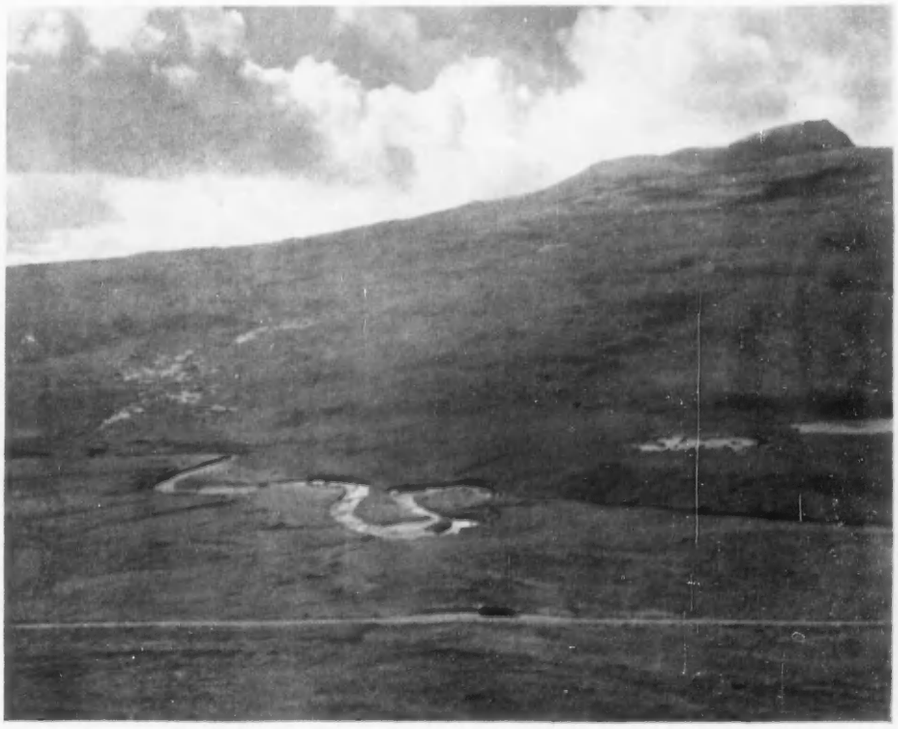
Now if lakes have to be filled up, the river's course over high ground has also to be cut through. Here waterfalls, cascades and rapids are busily at work; ravines are opened, gorges sawn through, defiles carved out; until, thus grinding, depositing, excavating and transporting, the river eventually attains a profile represented by the smooth curve (3) in Fig. 2. Its youth is then over; it has attained maturity. When this stage is reached by a river, downward erosion becomes very slow and the transport of rock waste is reduced to a minimum. This is not to say its activities have ceased. The leisurely Thames, for instance, a proudly mature river, carries in solution no less than 500,000 tons of material to the sea every day.

The main point to note, however, is that a river, having arrived at maturity, now transfers its erosive energies from deepening its bed to widening it. This it does by meandering, an expressive word, derived from the River Meander of ancient Phrygia, which seems so precisely to describe what the river is doing. No river can maintain an ideally straight course for any length of time, because inequalities of the land force it to flow in loops and bends. As it enters these loops and bends, its current impinges upon their outer banks, undercuts and wears them away; while at the same time the current is checked on the inner banks and shingle and sand are deposited. Thus its banks are pushed farther and farther apart while the deposits, forming a "flood plain," lie between them. In this way a river swings in its valley, and the loops that are formed, once they reach a reasonable size, are called meanders.

Naturally, these meanders vary in size according to the river to which they belong. A diminutive meander of a small mountain stream is shown in Fig. 5; while a beautiful and extensive meander can be seen near the town of Bungay, Suffolk, where the River Waveney, describing a horseshoe course of over four miles, encloses a large tract of common land. Now as undercutting and deposition continue, the concave sections of a meander mutually approach and finally coalesce. The meander is then cut off, the river taking a short cut across the neck, leaving behind the arc-shaped loop and forming an "oxbow lake." An example of this can be seen in Fig. 6, where the residual "lake" has already been filled up by deposition during floods (cf. Fig. 5).

Excessive meandering of any river may be taken as the approach of old age. Such a phase may be considered as achieved when the current of a river becomes barely perceptible, when the flood plains stretch far up its valley, when the uplands on which it rose are reduced to mere undulations. A land surface so produced is termed a peneplain (almost a plain), and it may perhaps be thought that our Fenland rivers, the Ouse, Nene and Welland, have produced such conditions. Exploration of their upper reaches quickly disposes of that supposition. Peneplains are exceptional features on the earth's surface, though Western Siberia is an important example; but, generally speaking, earth movements are likely to interrupt the progress of most of the world's rivers long before they reach the condition of extreme old age.

In this discussion of the drainage of our tilted block we have so far confined ourselves to the main river, running down the slope to the sea. This type of river is not seriously affected by the beds of the harder and softer rocks of which the block is composed. Nevertheless, though its valley through the more resistant rocks may be steep-sided, where it crosses softer layers it will be broader and more open. Thus tributaries are initiated which, working headwards along weaker rocks, grow



5.—LOOPS OR MEANDERS ON THE RIVER LOANAN, SUTHERLAND. The river wears away the outer bank of the meander and deposits sand and shingle on the inner. Here this process will soon wear away the land between the meanders, and the river will flow straight

6.—RIVER IN GLENCOUL, SUTHERLAND, SHOWING OXBOW LAKE (AT OX), NOW FILLED WITH RUBBLE DURING FLOODS

rapidly. These tributaries in turn are fed on both sides by lesser streams so that the system in time assumes the rectangular or trellised pattern suggested on Fig. 1.

Now it is certain that river systems, evolving as described, will be unequal both in drainage area and in velocity; so a stronger attacks a weaker. A tributary working swiftly backwards and deepening its bed of soft clay or shale will eventually reach the headwaters of a neighbouring system which, running at a higher elevation and therefore less powerful, will be diverted into the lower channel of the major river (Fig. 1). Examples of river-piracy are common in this country. But perhaps our most striking example is that of the River Ouse in Yorkshire, which, working along the soft Triassic beds, has captured in turn the Wharfe, the Nidd, the Ure and the Swale, and bids fair to make its next prize the Tees unless man intervenes (Fig. 7).

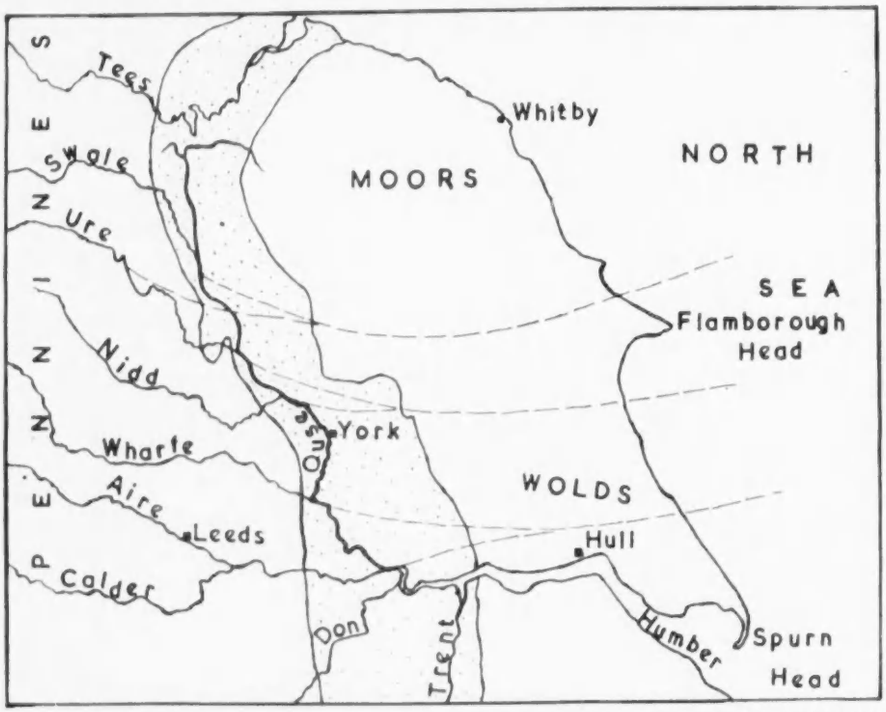
In addition to river-piracy, lateral tributaries, by eroding away belts of soft rock contiguous to those more resistant, are responsible for the formation of escarpments (Fig. 1). This will be obvious; but how the escarpment has been breached by a river which itself is flowing in a tract of lower ground is not so clear. A case in point will be familiar to train travellers from Paddington to Oxford when, after running through the relatively narrow passage between Goring and Streatley, they find themselves in an extensive plain stretching east and west to the horizon. What has happened here is that at one time the plain stood even higher than the chalk ridge and that the Thames, with its tributaries, when lowering the level of the plain was at the same time cutting the Goring Gap. Indeed, the amazing thing is, not so much that the river has succeeded in carving its way through the chalk, but that its erosion has been powerful enough to reduce the wide plain on the north to so low a level.

It will probably be clear that our tilted block of land is no imaginary case but represents part of the geological history of our own country. A little consideration will show that nearly all our major rivers flow in an easterly direction. Exceptions to this rule, such as the Severn, the Warwickshire Avon and the Clyde may be quoted. But the present Severn is a product of the ice which, advancing in great sheets from the Irish Sea, ponded it back and forced it to take its present course through the gorge at Ironbridge. In fact, recent research has shown that both the Severn and the Dee were at one time tributaries of an early Trent. In much the same way the drainage of the Warwickshire basin was diverted by that young river, the Avon, from an ancestral Soar which originally carried it to the north-east; while, owing to the foundering of areas round the Firth of Clyde, the River Clyde has been able to grow by capturing several headwaters of the Tweed.

Indeed, the predominant easterly course of the rivers of our country appears to date back to very early times when our tilted block was merely part of a great continent which stretched where now lies the Atlantic Ocean. Thus only can be understood the ancient valley of an easterly-flowing river found on the Hebridean island of Eigg and the interesting fact that, both in the sandstone of north-west Scotland and in the millstone grit of Yorkshire, pebbles have been found that must have been derived from an identical source. It is, in fact, highly probable that some of our rivers, the Thames for instance, are only the remnants of larger streams which rose much farther to the west.

No discussion on rivers, however brief, would be adequate without some reference to their behaviour in limestone country; for here they leave a two- for a three-dimensional world. One reason for this is that atmospheric carbon dioxide is dissolved both by surface waters and rain and that in such solutions limestone is soluble; second, this same rock contains an abundance of joints and fissures. It is therefore quite usual to find a limestone stream plunging underground through one of these crevices, threading its way through a series of communicating passages, often involving waterfalls, subterranean lakes and vast caverns, and eventually emerging miles away from its point of disappearance. Occasionally, such a river course is marked by a succession of sink-holes which often lead to huge vaulted chambers, hundreds of feet below. Under such conditions ordinary drainage channels seldom get a chance to develop but instead become weird and fantastic in the extreme and include some of the most awe-inspiring and entrancing sights in the world.

Some characteristics of limestone country are illustrated in Fig. 3. During the Ice Age glaciers crept down this valley and filled it with impervious debris up to the level of the caves, C1, C2, C3. When genial conditions returned, a large river, whose probable upper course is still indicated by the elongated lake in the distance, cut itself a subterranean passage and excavated the caves, clearing away with the help of its tributaries much of the glacial debris. The next stage is shown where the river, now less in volume owing to recession of the ice, dropped in level by about 300 feet and made an exit at the cave C4. Later, the river again changed its course and, still further reduced in volume, took this time an overground route, clearly marked by the boulders and gravel already referred to. But this channel has also been abandoned and the stream again runs underground, possibly by the way disclosed by the sink-holes (S) on the floor of the valley.



7.—MAP OF EAST YORKSHIRE, SHOWING SUCCESSIVE CAPTURES BY THE OUSE, WORKING NORTH ALONG SOFT TRIASSIC BEDS (DOTTED AREA) OF RIVERS FLOWING EAST. Broken lines indicate the possible original courses of these rivers

THE SALUKI OF THE DESERT

By JAMES LUNT

OUR friends tried hard to dissuade us from keeping salukis when first we went to Jordan. Some of them told us that they were untrustworthy and could not be house-trained. Others said they were disloyal and would go off with any passing Bedouin. All agreed that they were savage and unreliable with children. Our subsequent experience showed all such advice to be nonsense.

The saluki is the oldest known breed of dog. It can be traced back with certainty for thousands of years B.C., and salukis of the type we see to-day were probably the companions of Esau on his hunting forays. Until recently a Bedouin sheikh was largely judged on the breeding of his horses, camels and salukis. Standards have changed and the sheikh's Cadillac may have superseded his mare in the estimation of his tribe. Nevertheless, a good saluki still brings a glint of envy into the eyes of any true Bedouin.

It is astonishing that the Arabs have managed to maintain the purity of the strain. It has never been possible to lock up a bitch in a room or kennel while she is on heat, and the tribes are constantly moving from one well or pasture to another. Some Bedouins aver that a saluki bitch will not mate with other breeds, but the many obvious saluki-crosses which are seen around an encampment disprove this assertion.

Despite the difficulties of keeping the strain pure, drawings, paintings and sculptures dating back to long before the Christian era prove that the modern saluki of the desert differs hardly at all from its distant ancestors. The Bedouin does go to some trouble to prevent *mésalliances*. One method is to fasten one of the bitch's hind-legs to her collar during the mating period, which prevents her from standing upright. Another method involves incarcerating the bitch in a cave, but this must surely encourage the attention of the foxes, jackals and wolves which are to be found all over Arabia.

Dogs are unclean to all Mohammedans. Although every Bedouin encampment is made hideous by the incessant barking and fighting of its watch-dogs, none of these is ever allowed into the tents; nor are they accepted on anything else but sufferance. I never heard any Arab say a kind word to the creatures. It is surprising, therefore, that the saluki is specifically excepted from the general odium. It shares with the Arab horse, and the Bedouin himself, the distinction of being *asil*, or noble. Not only is it allowed into the tent, but it is given the softest cushion to lie on. It is reared on the camel's milk which gives strength to animal and human alike, and its position is almost the same as that of a dog in our own household.

Although the saluki may be treated as a pet, it has to work hard for its living. It is essentially a hunting dog, and the Bedouin relies largely on his salukis and falcons for the meat he requires to vary his monotonous diet of milk, dates and unleavened bread. The Bedouin is a great hunter, but his weapon is usually inaccurate and his ammunition limited; it will be an unwary hare or bustard which allows him to get within easy killing range. But a well-trained couple of salukis, working with falcons, can deal with even the fleet gazelle, although the art of using dogs and hawks to hunt gazelles is rapidly dying. It requires an exceptional saluki to deal with a gazelle on even terms since the gazelle is faster and has greater stamina. Falcons can be trained to bind to the gazelle, striking at its eyes, and sometimes causing it to stop and roll in order to shake off its tormentors. The salukis are thereby given the time to catch up and deal with the animal.

We acquired our first saluki when he was five months old. Both his father and mother were true salukis of the desert and mighty hunters, his father being the most powerful saluki I have ever seen. We called our puppy Rishan, which is the Arabic word for feather. It is a traditional name for a saluki dog as is Shellah for a bitch. Our Rishan fully justified his name, for he grew up to be a most beautiful dog. He was honey-coloured except for his back, which was a deep fawn, while the feathers on his ears and tail were tinted with silver. He had a most affectionate nature and his house-training was immaculate. But Rishan's most marked characteristic was a disinclination to do anything he did not want to do, coupled with the sweetest tooth of any dog I have ever known. He would climb on the writing desk to see if there were any sweets to be found there, and was not above calling on our friends to search for sweets in their houses. Toffees presented no difficulty to Rishan; he would carefully remove the paper and scatter it round the drawing-room as a proof of his skill.

If the truth be told, he was an appalling scavenger. We fed him on the choicest meat but he seldom ate it. He much preferred visiting all the neighbouring rubbish bins and then littering the lawn with the most unspeakable offal. No chicken was safe when Rishan was on his rounds, and any pigeon which was unwary enough to leave its cote and feed on the ground would be pounced on as quickly as by any cat. Rishan did not add to our popularity with our neighbours! Like all Arabs he loathed cold and wet, and nothing would induce him to leave his bed when it was raining. When eventually he was forced out of doors, he would lurk on the verandah, tail between his legs, looking the picture of misery. One was forced to let him in after the briefest period outside lest he died from sheer self-pity. Rishan never really grew up; he remained a puppy at heart up till the sad moment three years later when we left the country and bequeathed him to a friend.

The Arabs never hunt salukis singly if they can avoid doing so, and we had to acquire another if we were to hunt the hares and foxes with which the desert abounded. We accordingly bought Rishan's half-sister, a miserable, half-starved little thing when we brought her home. She was a smooth-haired saluki and not ing like so beautiful as Rishan, but she was much more courageous. We ran the pair of them at hares and gazelle, and, although it was Rishan who always was the first to pull anything down, it was the bitch who delivered the *coup de grâce*. She never tired, but I am afraid she did bear out the contention that salukis are difficult to house-train. Poppet (so she was named by my small daughter) had the most odious habit of rolling in filth. Nothing would cure her. Time after time she would be carried shrieking to a tap and scrubbed down by my orderly. Throughout the cleansing process she would yell as if about to die, but the moment it was finished she would be off to repeat the enormity. Poor Poppet eventually came to a sad end. She slept out in a kennel on a raised platform, and one night in winter a snake elected to share the warmth of her blanket. She was paralysed and dying when we found her next morning. A horrid end for a very game little dog!

Our household was dominated by my wife's Aberdeen terrier. He acknowledged the salukis' existence, but no more. Although Rishan was inclined to be a bully, he never took any liberties with the terrier, and would even give up his bone when the other dog took a fancy to it. We were keeping falcons at the time, and it was remarkable how differently they were affected by the two breeds of dog. The hawks took no notice whatsoever of the salukis and even allowed them to approach their blocks and sniff them as they sat there. But the mere sight of the Aberdeen was enough to send the birds into a paroxysm of rage and fear. Whereas they would travel quite quietly in the back of a jeep with the salukis, it was quite impossible to make them do so with the Aberdeen; even when hooded they were uneasy in his presence. I cannot account for this extraordinary partiality, but it is significant that for many thousands of years falcons and salukis have shared the freedom of the Bedouin tent.

We decided against bringing Rishan home with us when the time came to leave Jordan. Much though we hated to leave him, I am sure he would have been wretched in an English winter. It is hard enough to acclimatise oneself! In any event the desert was his element, and it is there that I like to think of him coursing the desert hare in the champagne-like air of an early spring morning. It may be that the odds are on the side of the hare, but at any rate I hope his new owner will still enjoy the pleasure that once was mine—that of watching a saluki at full stretch in his natural environment. Truly a feather in the desert air!

RISHAN, THE SALUKI OWNED BY THE AUTHOR IN JORDAN. The saluki, used by the Bedouins in hunting, has an ancestry going back for thousands of years

A GARDENER

(In memory of O. J.).

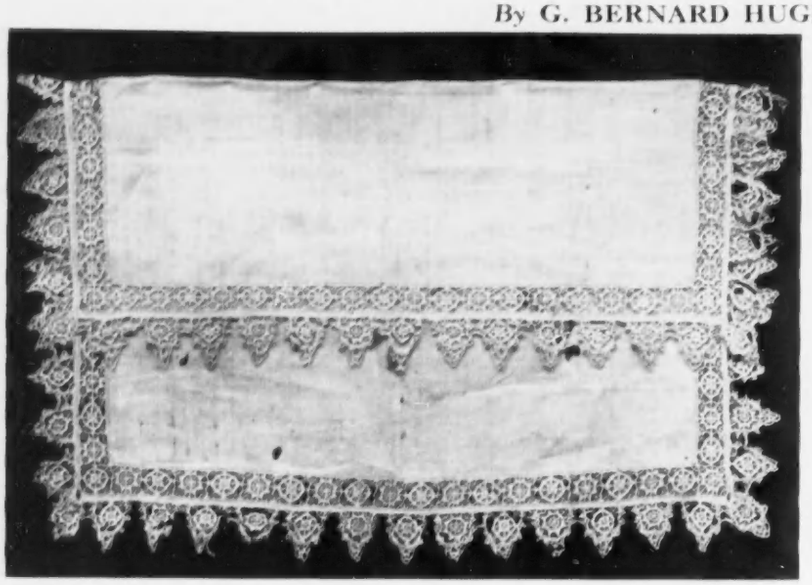
THIS was his garden, this parterre
And sunlit lawn and boskage dim.
His touch was sure. The seeds that here
Grew not for others, grew for him.

This was his garden. May it keep
In memory his love, his skill,
Summer by summer still be deep
In flowers, and be his garden still.

ERIC CHILMAN.

DECORATIVE POCKET HANDKERCHIEFS

By G. BERNARD HUGHES



A HANDKERCHIEF THAT BELONGED TO QUEEN ELIZABETH I. (*Right*) CAMBRIC HANDKERCHIEF DELICATELY STITCHED IN AN ELABORATE FLORAL DESIGN WITH SURFACE STITCHERY AND DRAWN THREAD WORK. Probably of the 17th century

HANDKERCHIEFS of lustrous silk tissue, delicately fragrant, were the delight of fashionable Chinese in the days of Confucius (551-470 B.C.). More than a thousand years passed before such a refinement was introduced into England by the Saxon invaders, whose "sweetcloths" of heavy linen were tucked into the left side of their girdles. Raphael's portrait of Pope Julius II, painted about 1510, shows the pontiff carrying such a square of plain linen. Similar squares, known as couvrechefs, draped the hair of women in Norman England; elaborate head-dresses were not worn until the 13th century. Couvrechefs were important enough to be noted in late Elizabethan inventories.

The story of decorative handkerchiefs in England begins in the early 14th century, when they were of finely embroidered linen, some even set with jewels. For a century or more they were entirely covered with ornament. It must be emphasised that until Georgian days dress handkerchiefs were carried only by privileged people on ceremonial occasions, at festivities and when dancing. These were carried in the hand. A plain linen square for humdrum duty purposes was concealed in the pocket.

Henry VIII possessed "handkerchiefs of Holland fringed with Venice gold, and redd and white silk," and Anne Boleyn's trousseau included four dozen of these. The New Year gifts to Mary Tudor in 1556 included "six handkerchers edged with passamayne of gold and silver," presented by Mrs. Penne, formerly governess to Edward VI, and Elizabeth I did not disdain to accept a gift of "six fair hankercheyes wrought with silk and gold."

At first, inevitably, the French name *mouchoir* prevailed in this country. A writer in *Anglia* (1425) wrote of "a lynnen mochour with which she wipt hir teres." Although French manners continued to set the fashion, within half a century the term handkerchief was general. The wardrobe accounts of Edward IV in 1480 record a payment to Alice Shaplter for "making and washing five dozen handcoverchiefs." This is the earliest use so far noted of the compound word, superseded early in the following century by "handkerchief" and "handkercher." Palsgrave in 1532 defined handkercher as "*a mouchoir*." The abbreviation "kercher" was widely adopted in Elizabethan days and remained the current spoken form until the mid 19th century. The prefix "pocket" was first associated with handkerchiefs in Charles II's reign, when it was a fashionable ostentation to display an elaborately embroidered dress handkerchief smothered in lace. The French name was not entirely lost, however, for Evelyn in the satire *Mundus Muliebris* in describing a fashionable lady's trousseau included "pocket mouchous," a dozen laced and a dozen plain. The term pocket handkerchief was, however, seldom used until the 1860s.

It has been suggested that the name muckinder was an alternative for handkerchief from the 16th century. This word, however, was used at first for a child's bib, and from the 1630s until early Victorian days it referred to a table napkin. Lovel in his *Diary* (1670) noted that "into our lap and on our knee was laid a muckinder to wipe our mouth and beard."

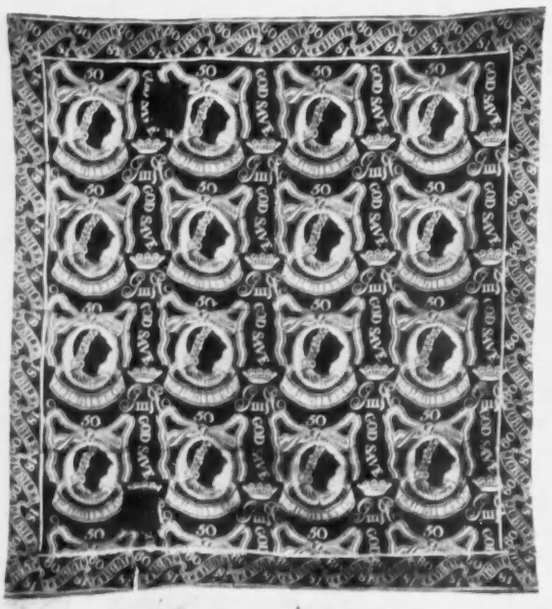
Elizabethan prosperity brought with it a greater array of costly handkerchiefs, and the queen herself delighted in silk and cambric exquisitely embroidered and trimmed with gold lace. But handkerchiefs were still highly prized possessions among people of yeoman standing, as is shown by their frequent mention in wills and inventories. Henry Fissher, a farmer of Kendal who died in 1578, left "collars, ruffs, and handkertchers" valued at 15s.

Collectors recognise five well-defined types of Elizabethan handkerchiefs: plain linen square; heavy linen square with a tiny picot edging and often with a wide insertion of Venetian point lace; cambric trimmed with Flanders lace; cambric trimmed and embroidered with gold thread; cambric embroidered all over with patterns that stand out like ivory carvings against the sheer linen ground. The fashion was to carry the handkerchief at the girdle, as borne out by Hollyband's advice in 1593: "Put this hande-kercher at thy girdle, to make cleane thy nose."

Remaining specimens—scarce and precious—testify to the fact that here as elsewhere in Elizabethan embroidery the needlewoman's creative imagination was allowed full scope in fringes, picots and knotwork, cross-stitch and satin-stitch. English ladies generally embroidered their own handkerchiefs, taking pride in their work, and often using the celebrated blue thread of Coventry. Designs were strongly influenced by the many printed pattern books of the period. By the beginning of the 17th century handkerchiefs might be edged with English-made needlepoint or bobbin lace.

Even a plain handkerchief of cambric might cost over a shilling, and an elaborate 12-inch square of cutwork sold for nine or ten shillings. The Howard accounts for 1623 contain numerous references regarding the purchase of handkerchief materials, typical entries being: "3 yardes of Scott's cloth for handkerchers for my Lord 7s 6d; one ell of holin holland for handkerchiefes 7s 6d; 2 yardes of Lace for my Ladye's handkercheefs 2s 6d."

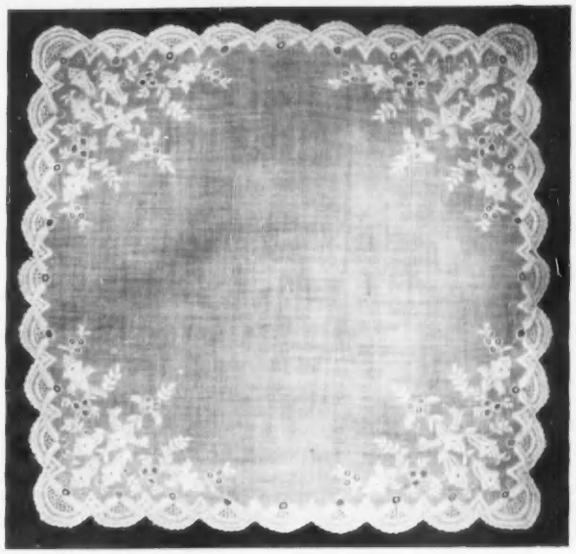
Stow's *Annals* (1580) record that it was then customary for "maydes and gentlewomen to give their favourites, as a token of love, little handkerchiefs of about three to four inches square, wrought round about and with a button at each corner." The buttons were really tassels, either long-tailed or cut short and resembling acorns. Handkerchief buttons were in sufficient demand by the early 17th century for them to be hawked in the streets. The cambric or tiffany—a transparent gauze-like muslin from which buttoned handkerchiefs were made—might be embroidered with flowers, fruit, foliage, or



A BLUE AND YELLOW HANDKERCHIEF THAT COMMEMORATED GEORGE III's JUBILEE IN 1809

posies, and "names and true-love knots" were noted by Francis Bacon in 1604. Many of these buttons were in expensive passementerie work imported from the Continent until this was forbidden in 1672 and thereafter smuggled.

This was the period when handkerchief edgings might form part of matching sets with collars and cuffs. These were given honoured places in boxes ornamented with marquetry work in similar designs. Lace handkerchiefs were costly dress accessories: in 1666 Samuel Pepys scolded his wife because she bought "a laced handkerchief without my permission." A single handkerchief might be valuable enough for its "loss"—or pickpocket theft—to be advertised in the Press. One such advertisement appeared in the *Intelligencer* (1665): "Lost, six handkerchers wrapt up in brown paper, two laced, one point laced, set on tiffany: the two laced ones being worn, the other four new." In the *London Gazette* (1672) an advertiser announced that he had "lost a lawn handkercher, with a broad hem, laced round with fine point lace, about four fingers broad, marked with an R in red silk."



CAMBRIC EXAMPLE OF LACE-LIKE DELICACY, TYPICAL OF MUCH FINE EMBROIDERY OF THE EARLY 19th CENTURY

The ladies of the late 17th and early 18th centuries no longer toyed with splendid lace handkerchiefs, preferring instead jewelled snuff-boxes, scent-bottles and painted fans. The popularity of snuff brought about the widespread use of serviceable handkerchiefs to dust the face and clothing. A lady would carry hers between the petticoats in a linen bag sewn to tapes tied around the waist; men's clothing began to be fitted with suitable pockets for snuff handkerchiefs, usually in the tails (See *Old English Snuff-Handkerchiefs*, COUNTRY LIFE, November 17, 1955). On the stage, however, the dress handkerchief continued an indispensable costume detail; comedy was unthinkable without a fan, and drama without a handkerchief. In this connection it appears to have been a necessary stage accessory until the 1750s.

The dress handkerchief returned with the Hanoverians, and measured a foot or eighteen inches across, as formerly. By the mid 18th century, however, it had increased to twenty-four inches or more, but was a dainty, wispy article nevertheless in the finest tiffany, lawn, or the "cobweb lace" noted by Mrs. Delany as an important dress accessory when describing the famous Countess of Coventry in 1754.

Little is heard of the dress pocket handkerchief until the early 19th century saw its return to the status of a fashion detail. The Empress Josephine renewed the French vogue for these decorative and expressive trifles, deeply bordered with lace, and the style reached England about 1815. They were carried conspicuously by women and showed from men's small pockets. The rather large, plain handkerchief suited to the Regency's Grecian fashions soon gave place, like the dresses it served, to less voluminous but more richly elaborated designs, adorned with embroidery and lace. These were held by the tips of gloved fingers. A fashion writer of the period eulogised them as resembling "delicate bas-reliefs sculptured by the finger of a fairy."

Every toilette possessed its own special handkerchief. There were handkerchiefs for walking, for the tea-table, for the theatre, for the privacy of the boudoir, even handkerchiefs designed to carry on visits of charity. Others were embroidered to suit every kind of anniversary. Nothing was too ambitious for their decoration, from such betrothal motifs as hearts and love-birds combined with the affianced's initials to the period's delight in views of famous buildings and sporting scenes, and even representations of the willow pattern. Handkerchiefs enriched with shadow embroidery were stylish at this time, patterns being carried out in a wide range of stitches and lace fillings.

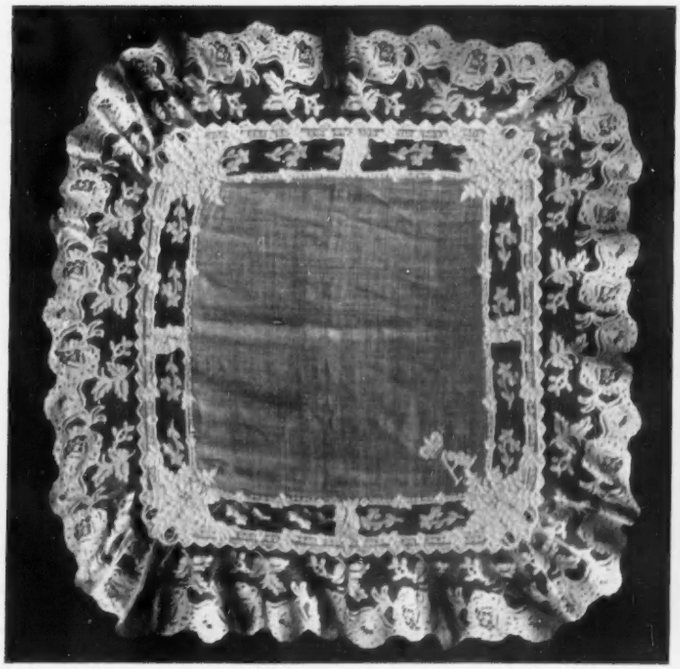
Smaller and dainter than ever before, early Victorian handkerchiefs became so lavishly enriched with all manner of embroidery and lace that only a small central circle remained plain, and delicately worked flowers and foliage covered the rest of the field.

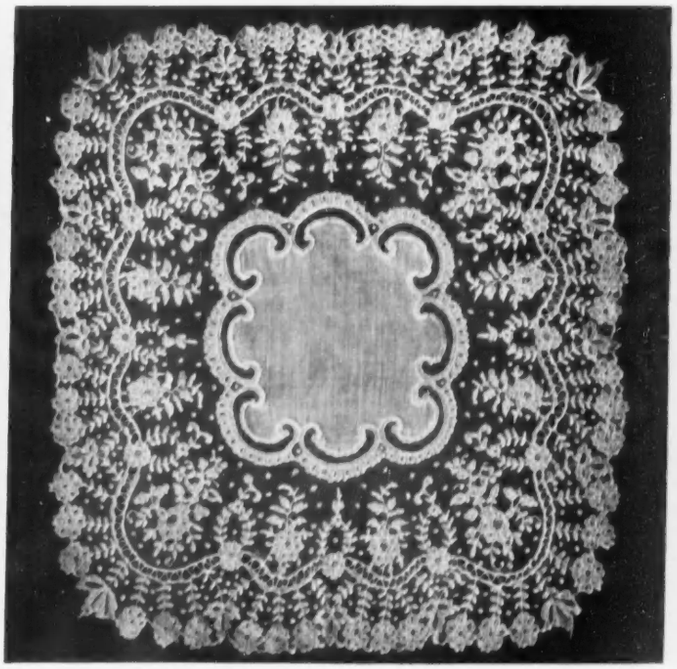
Patterns for women's handkerchiefs formed the theme of endless special features in the women's magazines and, no doubt, these fostered much amateur work. Crests and monograms, corner motifs and drawn work contributed to their elegance. The collector, however, must distinguish between the commercially worked hand-embroidery and the machine work that followed the invention of an embroidery machine in 1834. This period witnessed a bewildering amount of white embroidery which, like lace and tambour stitching on machine-made net, was worked by country girls no longer able to make a living at the cottage craft of spinning.

The collector has also to consider as an aid to dating the various styles of lace on old handkerchiefs. *Lace*, written by Mrs. Bury Palliser almost a century ago, still remains the invaluable classic on the subject, although she has been closely imitated. In addition to the various Continental laces, much English bobbin lace was produced in the 19th century in Devon and the Midland lace centres. The Irish Carrickmacross appliqué was developed in the 1820s; the well-known Honiton sprigs were sewn on to machine-made net from the late 1830s, and, after about 1845, might be linked by bobbin-made tape; the guipure was made from the 1840s; and Buckinghamshire Maltese lace may be dated from about 1850. By then, all kinds of lace could be machine-woven.

Once the sewing-machine was developed, the least ambitious of 19th-century handkerchiefs might be machine-hemmed. Contrary to popular belief, this was an English invention, and lock-stitch machine-sewing was a practical proposition by 1851. The range of decorative handkerchiefs had now become limitless and the collector pursuing the subject into the 1850s finds cambric, lawn and linen handkerchiefs, bordered, hemstitched, tucked and loom-embroidered, some with floral borders.

Illustrations: Victoria and Albert Museum.





LACE AND EMBROIDERY COMBINED IN A MONOGRAMMED HANDKERCHIEF THAT QUEEN ALEXANDRA ONCE OWNED. (*Right*) HANDKERCHIEF OF CARRICKMACROSS APPLIQUE WORK, INTENDED PURELY FOR ORNAMENT. Both these handkerchiefs were in the collection of Queen Mary

THE HAPPY EASTBURY CIRCLE

By ANTONY BRACKENBURY

ON the crest of the downs overlooking the valley of the Tarrant, a stream that winds its way through the chalk to join the Dorset Stour a few miles below Blandford Forum, stands a remarkable carriage gateway. Not the least remarkable thing about it is that two sizeable pine trees grow out of the top of the arch. What makes it more interesting still is that it was designed by Vanbrugh as the entrance to the stable court of a gigantic mansion which has since almost entirely disappeared. Cattle now graze where the great forecourt used to be and tractors drive unwittingly over the buried foundations of this forgotten palace. But wide clearings in the woods and long vistas between the trees remain as ghostly reminders of other days.

In the reign of Queen Anne this property on the western edge of Cranborne Chase was bought by one of the Lords of the Admiralty named George Dodington, and he it was who commissioned Vanbrugh to build him a house here. The landscape gardener Bridgeman was entrusted with the lay-out of the park and work was soon in progress. No expense was spared and while the buildings flanking the main forecourt were taking shape, terraces and fountains, avenues and grottoes were being conjured into existence on the wild open downland.

In the middle of all this activity George Dodington died. By his will the property, together with a large fortune, passed into the hands of a nephew of his, George Bubb, a young man busy making a career for himself in the embassy at Madrid. He had the wit to realize that this suddenly acquired wealth could be the ladder to great advancement; so he restyled himself George Bubb Dodington and proceeded to climb the ladder for all he was worth. To begin with he was too busy with politics to concern himself with Eastbury, and he had besides the misfortune to lose a good deal of money in the financial disaster of the South Sea Bubble. But after a year or two enough funds were found to continue the building and young Mr. Dodington took up his residence in Dorset.

By a coincidence the rectory in the neighbouring village of Pimperne also changed hands at this time. The new incumbent was a Blandford doctor's son just down from Oxford, whose name was Christopher Pitt. This family, which a generation later was to produce the Earl of Chatham, used to be great landowners in Dorset. The most convenient way for them to set up young Christopher, who had a taste for poetry and no political ambition, was to purchase a country living and put him into it. By a lucky chance Pimperne, only a couple of miles from his boyhood home, fell vacant, and Christopher found himself master of an elegant house that had just been thoroughly modernized by his predecessor. Some features of the 16th-century rectory were left intact and tastefully incorporated in the new design. There were several acres of garden too, with fine old yew and box hedges enclosing a grass pathway called the Queen's Walk, which tradition associated with Catherine Parr.

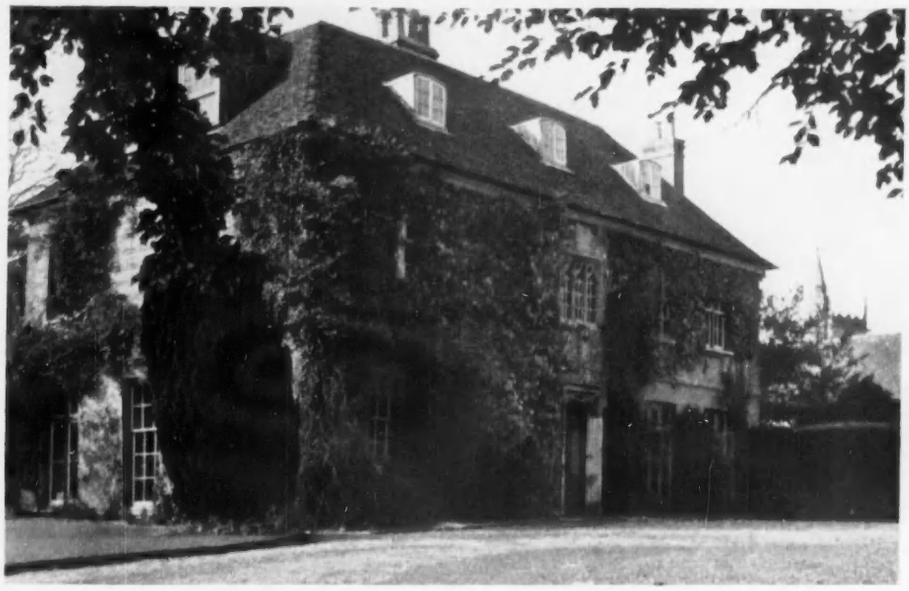
It suited him ideally and he was soon arranging his books on the shelves of his library, and being called upon by all the gentry of the neighbourhood. Mr. Dodington called. The two young gentlemen were mutually impressed. Perhaps the poet scented a possible patron and the man of affairs a scholar who would add distinction to his dinner-table. For Dodington, whose ambition was to be a man of taste as well as wealth, looked forward to seeing himself the centre of a circle of eminent men and women; the Eastbury Circle in fact, and Christopher Pitt should be the first member.

Before long the young parson found himself dining in Dodington's octagonal eating-room. He admired everything, the silver, the elegant furniture, the room itself and particularly the splendid painted ceiling. It was the work of Thornhill, he discovered; the same Sir James Thornhill who had recently been working on the ceiling of the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral. He was coming to stay at Eastbury in the autumn when Sir John Vanbrugh would be there to discuss the final plans for the main part of the house. Not to be outdone Mr. Pitt, on leaving, mentioned as a Parthian shot that having completed Horace's *Odes* he had just begun a verse translation of Virgil's *Aeneid*. The two neighbours looked forward to meeting again in September.

September came and with it not only the great architect and the King's Serjeant Painter but another young poet of promise, James Thomson, who remembered his visit and

VANBRUGH'S GATEWAY TO THE STABLE COURT AT EASTBURY, DORSET. In the early 18th century George Bubb Dodington, the owner, entertained there Vanbrugh, the architect, Thornhill, the painter, Thomson, the poet, and Christopher Pitt, Rector of Pimperne, who recorded their meetings in verse

THE PRESENT HOUSE AT EASTBURY, FORMED FROM THE STABLE WING AFTER THE REMAINDER OF THE BUILDING HAD BEEN DEMOLISHED



PIMPERNE RECTORY, THE HOME OF CHRISTOPHER PITT

later on celebrated it in the *Autumn* of his poem *The Seasons*. Evidently Vanbrugh produced various models of the completed mansion, which were put on the table after dinner as the wine went round and the gentlemen puffed their pipes. It is Christopher Pitt who gives us a glimpse of the scene:

While with your Dodington retired you sit
Charmed with his flowing Burgundy and wit
By turns relieving with the circling draught
Each pause of chat and interval of thought;
Or through the well glazed tube, from business freed,
Draw the rich spirit of the Indian weed,
Or bid your eye o'er Vanbrugh's models roam
And trace in miniature the future dome.
While busy Fancy with imagined power
Builds up the work of ages in an hour. . .

As a matter of fact there never was a dome when the central part of the house eventually came to be built, although one architectural drawing which survives shows the proposed building topped by a big cupola. But it was magnificent enough. The main front extended one hundred and forty four feet from side to side of the forecourt, with a central portico of Doric columns nearly fifty feet high approached by a stately flight of steps. The door opened into an entrance hall adorned with statues and busts and decorated with a gorgeous ceiling. At one end of this saloon were three apartments, one hung with crimson velvet, another with flowered damask and a third with satin, all richly laced with gold. At the other end were a drawing-room and large dining-room. According to one account the owner of all this splendour matched it in the finery of his personal appearance, for he dressed himself in rich and flaring suits and displayed a great expanse of brocade and embroidery.

The writer goes on to say, not too kindly: "When he paid his court at St. James' to the Queen upon her marriage, he approached to kiss her hand decked in an embroidered suit of silk with lilac waistcoat and breeches, the latter of which in the act of kneeling down, forgot their duty and broke loose from their moorings in a very indecorous and uncourtly manner."

But to return to the dinner-party. Sir James Thornhill had a surprise for the company: he had just repurchased his old family seat near Stalbridge. Thornhill House was a stone-built Elizabethan mansion from which the family had been separated for half a century. Of the finely proportioned rooms with which Sir James remodelled the interior only one or two survive to-day, but the north and south fronts, restyled in the Classical manner, remain as perfect examples of well-judged improvement. This was where the painter intended to settle down with his wife and children. Everyone was delighted with his news and another permanent member was added to the Eastbury Circle.

Christopher Pitt took time off from his description of the fall of Troy to write some verses of congratulation to his new acquaintance:

Methinks as thrown upon some fairy land
Amazed we know not how nor where we stand
While wondering we behold in every part
The beauteous scenes of thy creating art

and so on in the same vein.

These were busy and happy days for them all. Dodington, when politics allowed, supervising the workmen who swarmed about his palace; Thornhill painting an ornamental ceiling for his own drawing-room with a self-portrait as a centre-piece; and Pitt doing his best to better Dryden as he paced round the Queen's Walk and turned over the couplets in his mind. From time to time the attention of them all was disturbed by momentous news: the death of Vanbrugh before the walls of Eastbury had reached even the first floor; the visit of Voltaire, the most formidable literary lion ever lured into the octagonal room; the elopement of Thornhill's daughter and her marriage in London to a young painter named Hogarth; and of course the night of the fire when Blandford was burned down and every room in the rectory at Pimperne was occupied by the homeless.

During these years the entertaining was not all on one side. When Pitt sent out an invitation it was naturally in verse:

If Dodington will condescend
To visit a poetic friend
And leave a numerous bill of fare
For four or five plain dishes here,
No costly welcome, but a kind
He and his friends will always find.

He then goes on to apologise for the absence of venison from his table. To appreciate this one has to realize that for anyone living within the bounds of the Chase not to provide venison was to admit a failure in hospitality. Yet although deer hunting was a sport enjoyed by daring young men of all classes, it was really and truly nothing else than deer stealing, and many bloody engagements took place between the keepers and poachers, and from time to time men were killed in these encounters. One of the earliest battles of the kind took place near Eastbury Park. Pitt's verse goes on:

Our rogues indeed of late o'erawed
By human laws, not those of God,
No venison steal.
And yet perhaps some venturous spark
May bring it now the nights are dark.

There is certainly a local tradition that the tower of Pimperne church was one of the hides used by the deer stealers after a successful night's work. Whether the rector was aware of this is not known. The invitation concludes with the lines:

Punch I have store and beer beside
And port that's good, though Frenchified.
Then if you come I'm sure to get
From Eastbury a dessert—of wit.

It is not hard to imagine Dodington, snout-nosed and corpulent, smiling to himself at his host's compliment, as his coach, drawn by six black horses, rumbled over Pimperne Down taking him to dine at the rectory.

This agreeable pattern of living was not destined to endure for long. By the middle of the century not only Vanbrugh, but Thornhill, Pitt and Thomson had all died, and the ageing Bubb Dodington had fewer friends to console him for the disappointments of his political ambitions. The final irony was that his own death followed only a year after he had achieved the coveted distinction of being created Lord Melcombe, and he left no heir to the title or estates.

Eastbury stood empty for twelve months and then the contents were sold; but nobody could be found willing to purchase the house itself. Even when it was offered together with a grant of two hundred pounds a year to anyone who would live in it and keep it in repair, there were still no takers. Eventually, having stood for less than half a century, the central mansion was demolished, and in the course of time the rest of the buildings disappeared too, with the notable exception of the stable wing. Together with its splendid archway this survives to-day, converted into a country house of great character.

Photographs: W. Carpenter Jacobs.

THE NORTH FRONT OF THORNHILL HOUSE, ALTERED BY SIR JAMES THORNHILL AFTER HE HAD REBOUGHT THE HOME OF HIS FORBEARS

BIRD AND INSECT ASSOCIATIONS

Written and Illustrated by **JOHN WARHAM**

PROBABLY no insect exists which some bird will not devour if it gets the opportunity, and even seed-eaters such as finches may switch to insects when there are small young to be fed. For convenience, insectivorous birds may be divided into three categories according to their hunting methods. There are those, like swallows, swifts and nightjars, that trawl the air for aerial plankton, snapping up flies, moths and beetles in their flight. Such birds are incapable of feeding except on airborne insects; if the supply fails the birds must either migrate or die. A very large category of insect-feeders comprises birds which actively seek out their prey on the ground or in vegetation; woodpeckers and their allies strip the bark from trees, warblers and titmice scour the foliage of bushes and saplings, and robins, thrushes and nightingales turn over the ground litter in their quest. The third group includes the many species that adopt a wait-and-see technique. They perch on a point of vantage from which they can strike at any insect moving within range. The spotted and the pied flycatcher come into this category, and there are many foreign species that have similar habits, notably those of the shrike and kingfisher families. The little owl in Fig. 1 behaves similarly, for it waylays moths and cockchafers flying past in the twilight, darting from its perch to snatch them in its beak.

1.—A LITTLE OWL WITH A FEMALE GHOST MOTH (*HEPIALUS HUMULI*) IN ITS BEAK. Little owls lie in wait for moths and cockchafers flying past in the twilight and dart out after them

A new light has been thrown on this wait-and-see method by the suggestions of two Danish zoologists recently regarding the feeding habits of the frogmouth (a giant aberrant nightjar) of New Guinea. The gape of this bird is huge even for a nightjar, and exactly resembles in its sulphur-yellow colouring the bloom of one of the common flowers, the night-candle (*Oenothera biennis*). In addition, the bird's tongue lies in the same position as the pistil in a flower. These authors suggest that the cockchafers found in the stomachs of two birds of this species had been captured as the frogmouth held its gape wide open simulating a flower. Identical beak marks on the wings of the cockchafers show that they were, in fact, in exactly the same position as regards the bird's head when captured. At the same time, from elsewhere in the world there have recently been numerous reports of nightjars being killed on the roads after dark, and the various observers have speculated on the reason for the birds' choice of such resting-places. Perhaps these too were using a similar artifice to obtain their evening meals.

Many birds which usually show no interest in airborne insects take to their pursuit when such food is temporarily abundant. This happens, for instance, on those dull, sultry days when a marriage flight of flying ants occurs. Such flights are usually pounced upon by sparrows, starlings, even gulls—all attracted by the chance of an easy meal. Occasional hawking for insects is recorded for many birds and for some which seem ill adapted to perform the aerial acrobatics required. One would hardly expect such behaviour of a dipper, still less of cumbersome creatures like rooks, jackdaws and greater spotted woodpeckers, yet all these have been seen catching flying insects occasionally. During an influx of goldcrests into England in September, 1949, one gave chase to a dragonfly almost as large as itself. For a short while before releasing its hold, the tiny bird appeared to be towed along by the dragonfly.

Many birds show considerable dexterity in handling their struggling creatures, and are able to hold impressive numbers of insects in their beaks while still continuing to catch more (Fig. 2). Large insects may prove difficult. Kingfishers often beat their prey vigorously against a limb until it is dead and bee-eaters do the same thing with the big dragonflies they snap up (Fig. 3). The noise made when these birds bang their victims against a wire or a dead branch can be surprisingly loud. The grey butcher-bird uses a raised piece of bark beneath which to wedge its insects while pulling them to pieces.

A great many devices have been evolved by insects to give them added protection against the attacks of birds and other predators, but only recently have practical trials established the effectiveness of some of these stratagems. Dr. Tinbergen has described (COUNTRY LIFE, October 19, 1951) how, when working with jays and the stick caterpillars of the geometers *Ennomos quercinaria* and *E. alniaria*, he found that the latter's resemblance to the sticks of their food plant did protect them from attack. The jays did not recognise the larvæ as food unless they moved, and he deduced that such artifices had definite survival value when the insects concerned were sufficiently spaced out among the foliage. This is how they occur in nature, since cryptically coloured insects are not gregarious.

The inability of birds to detect well-camouflaged and motionless insects, which may be in part a result of the bird's limited binocular vision, seems to be the cause of rather histrionic feeding behaviour in some species. The black and white fantail, an Australian flycatcher, restlessly swings its tail from side to side and flicks its half-open wings as it moves about on the ground. Tail and wings are used to beat the insects, both cryptically coloured and otherwise, from their cover into flight. They are then at once seen and taken. Among passerine birds of northern latitudes wagtails, pipits and wheatears are all insectivorous in diet, all feed on the ground and all show tail-wagging movements. Perhaps these too find such movements useful when food getting.

Another way in which birds may overcome their inefficiency in detecting cryptically-coloured prey is by communal feeding. When a group of starlings, gulls or ibises work in consort across the ground, an insect disturbed by one member of the group may escape capture by that bird only to be snapped up by another,

2.—A WHEATEAR HOLDING A CATERPILLAR OF ONE OF THE AGROTID MOTHS, A CLICK BEETLE AND A SMALL GROUND BEETLE AS IT WALKS TO ITS NEST. (*Right*) 3.—BEE-EATER WITH A LARGE *ANAX* DRAGONFLY THAT IT HAS BEATEN TO DEATH AGAINST A DEAD BRANCH

4.—THREAT DISPLAY OF MALE *ANTHELA XANTHARCHA* MOTH OF AUSTRALIA, DESIGNED TO WARD OFF ATTACK BY BIRDS. When alarmed it displays its bright yellow hind wings as it vibrates its grey fore-wings in readiness for flight. (*Right*) 5.—*XYLEUTES* MOTH, AN AUSTRALIAN RELATIVE OF THE BRITISH GOAT MOTH, BEATING ITS WINGS IN A THREAT DISPLAY

Warning colouration plays an important part in deterring birds from attacking insects exhibiting it. Excellent examples are provided by wasps, hornets and the black and yellow caterpillars of the familiar cinnabar moth. Mostler's work on wasps and Windecker's on cinnabar larvæ reveal that many young song birds attempt to devour these insects, but, finding them both unpalatable, seldom swallow their captures, and in future leave them severely alone. Windecker also demonstrated the presence of Mullerian mimicry; he found that birds which had learned to ignore cinnabar larvæ also ignored similarly coloured wasps without making further trials.

Special patterns are used by many insects as part of their bluff; thus elephant hawk moth caterpillars have a pair of eye-like markings towards the fronts of their bodies, so that they look very venomous indeed, and it can well be imagined that most birds would hesitate to attack them. Many moths display eye-spots on their hind wings, though their fore-wings are generally cryptically coloured. When the insect is alarmed the fore-wings are raised, revealing the startling colours below (Fig. 4). At the same time the wings are vibrated, warming up the muscles in readiness for flight. This display may well ward off attacks, but if not, and the insect succeeds in taking wing, its bright under-wings attract attention. Usually the insect alights suddenly in the vegetation, the bright under-wings are hidden by the drab fore-wings, and it disappears, leaving its avian pursuer baffled.

In some species warning colours seem to be supplemented by warning sounds. One small tropical tiger moth I have watched flying in broad daylight displays its bright colours while making a fierce buzzing sound and so calls attention to its actions. The moth sounds and looks like a particularly large and aggressive wasp and appears to derive immunity from creatures like shrikes by this means.

Threat displays by insects are widespread and are seen in both brightly coloured and unassuming species. Puss-moth caterpillars wave their long whip-like tails, certain gnats employ a kind of threat dance, flexing and unflexing their long legs so that they vibrate up and down on their resting-places, sawfly larvæ throb their bodies in a kind of spasm as they crowd together on a leaf, and so on, but few experiments seem to have been made to test the effectiveness of such behaviour in the face of attacks from birds.

I was recently able to witness the threat display of a dull and rather ugly *Xyleutes* moth. This is an Australian relative of our familiar goat moth, and the females in particular are huge creatures, looking in flight more like bats than moths. *Xyleutes* resembles most big moths in being unable to fly until it has warmed up the motor muscles by rapidly shivering its wings. If alarmed it uses a threat display in which the wings are abruptly jerked out and beaten violently and noisily. If this succeeds in deterring aggression, it whirrs its wings and flies off. The insect in my photograph (Fig. 5) subsequently flew away followed by a pair of honey-eaters, but neither attempted to press home its attacks in the face of its frightening display as it resettled on a tree trunk near by.

Despite the variety of devices used by insects to foil attacks, no species is immune. Cinnabar larvæ are eaten by certain birds, notably redstarts, and the caterpillars of tiger moths (the "woolly bears" which have some irritant hairs) are devoured by cuckoos. The stomach linings of cuckoos are sometimes found to be embedded with a mat of the long hairs from these caterpillars.

Insects which prey on birds are mainly of parasitic kinds such as fleas and hippoboscid flies, but during recent years ornithologists in various parts of the world have unearthed instances of some curious relationships between birds and insects. It has long been known that some birds site their nests in close proximity to colonies of bees, wasps and ants. Such preferences have not been noted among birds in Britain, and seem mainly confined to tropical warblers that make domed and loosely woven structures having an entrance hole or tunnel at the side. In Australia the black-throated warbler often nests in association with wasps, and the remarkable aspect of this is the toleration with which the birds are treated by their aggressive neighbours, for the warblers are both active and noisy at their nests. If a human being moves a branch near by the wasps are at once aroused, yet if the birds cause the same movement they ignore it. It is presumed that birds choose such sites to gain protection from the tree-climbing snakes and lizards that are often serious enemies of breeding birds in the tropics. W. H. Hudson was one of the first to comment on wasp-bird associations, citing the spinetail of South America. This bird not only builds close to wasps' nests, but decorates its home with cast-off snake skins.

6.—A PARROT AT ITS NEST-HOLE. Birds that nest in holes, such as parrots, hornbills and kingfishers, often harbour insect scavengers

Another recent example of association between birds and insects concerns the notorious army ants of Central America. On Barro Colorado Island birds have been watched in attendance during nomadic raids of these creatures and feeding on insects flushed by them. Some birds followed the ants throughout the day, but none was ever seen to eat an ant or to show any fear of ants.

In the above examples the benefits of association all seem to be with the birds, but instances where both birds and insects benefit by their contacts are now coming to light. Thus the nesting-holes of many tropical birds like hornbills, parrots (Fig. 6) and kookaburras are found to be infested with insects of various kinds. Such insect lodgers are frequently moths, the larvæ of which feed upon the feathers and scales from the skins of the nestlings and on the faeces. These inquilines may live without detriment to their hosts, merely acting as scavengers helping to keep the nesting-hole in a clean and sanitary condition. The rosella parrot harbours in its nest larvæ which even devour any of the chicks that die in the chamber. These larvæ belong to the bird's nest fly (*Passeromyia longicornis*), which, oddly enough, is also parasitic in the larval stage on several types of honey-eaters, where it sucks the blood of the nestlings. Thus the same insect may be a beneficial scavenger and at other times a harmful body parasite. Apparently the female's choice of nest in which to lay her eggs governs the feeding habits of the larvæ.

The variety of insects that inhabit birds' nests can be judged from the fact that R. E. Moreau succeeded in breeding 438 insects representing eight species from a single nest-hollow of an African hornbill, while a kookaburra's hole yielded 349 larvæ, most of which were parasitised by a chalcid wasp or by a small beetle.

These instances of bird-insect nesting associations all come from tropical or subtropical areas. Analagous behaviour does not appear to occur in Britain. And while birds' nests in Europe are occasionally found near those of wasps and of bees, such associations seem quite fortuitous. Possible exceptions may be the three records of northern longtailed titmice found building close to nests of the common wood ant; it seems possible that the siting of these may have been the result of deliberate selection.

OAKLY PARK, SHROPSHIRE—II

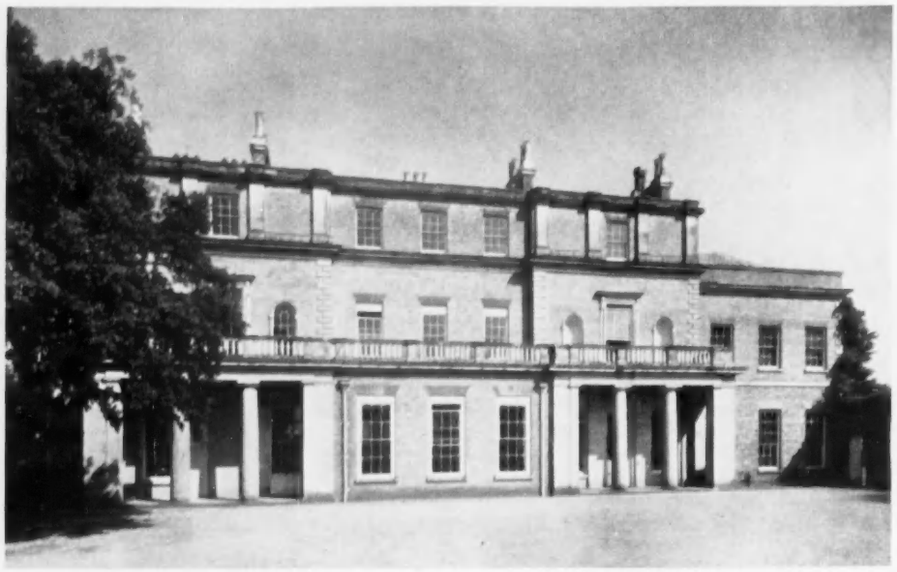
THE SEAT OF THE EARL OF PLYMOUTH

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

The old house was remodelled by C. R. Cockerell in stages between 1819 and 1840 for the Hon. Robert Clive. His grandson, who inherited the ancient barony of Windsor through his mother and was created Earl of Plymouth, was the present owner's grandfather.

A COUNTRY house attributable to Charles Robert Cockerell (1788-1863)—even if only remodelled by him as was the case with Oakly Park—is a rarity; the most humane of 19th-century Classicists was chiefly engaged on public buildings, the most famous of which is the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford. He was a remarkable combination of artist and archæologist, whose passion for antiquity was not greater than his admiration for Wren, and, so far from hardening into pedantry, refined and vitalised his architecture. Son of Samuel Pepys Cockerell and pupil of Smirke, he was in his early twenties when, in 1810, he set out for Greece and with a group of German *Kunstforscher* made sensational discoveries: the Aegina marbles, now at Munich, and the sculptures at Phygalea in Arcadia, now in the British Museum. After adventures in Asia Minor, further researches in Sicily and the Peloponnese, and scholarly exercises in Rome, he returned to England in 1817 with as promising a reputation as had Athenian Stuart and Adam under similar circumstances.

Robert Clive was his close contemporary. Grandson of the great Clive and younger son of the 1st Earl of Powis, in 1819 he had inherited Oakly Park where much needed doing to make the irregular old house a "gentleman's residence." It is not known why he rejected the claims of a local architect, Edward Haycock, of Shrewsbury, who had already much altered the house, to go on with the work, in favour of the brilliant but, as a practical architect, untried Cockerell.

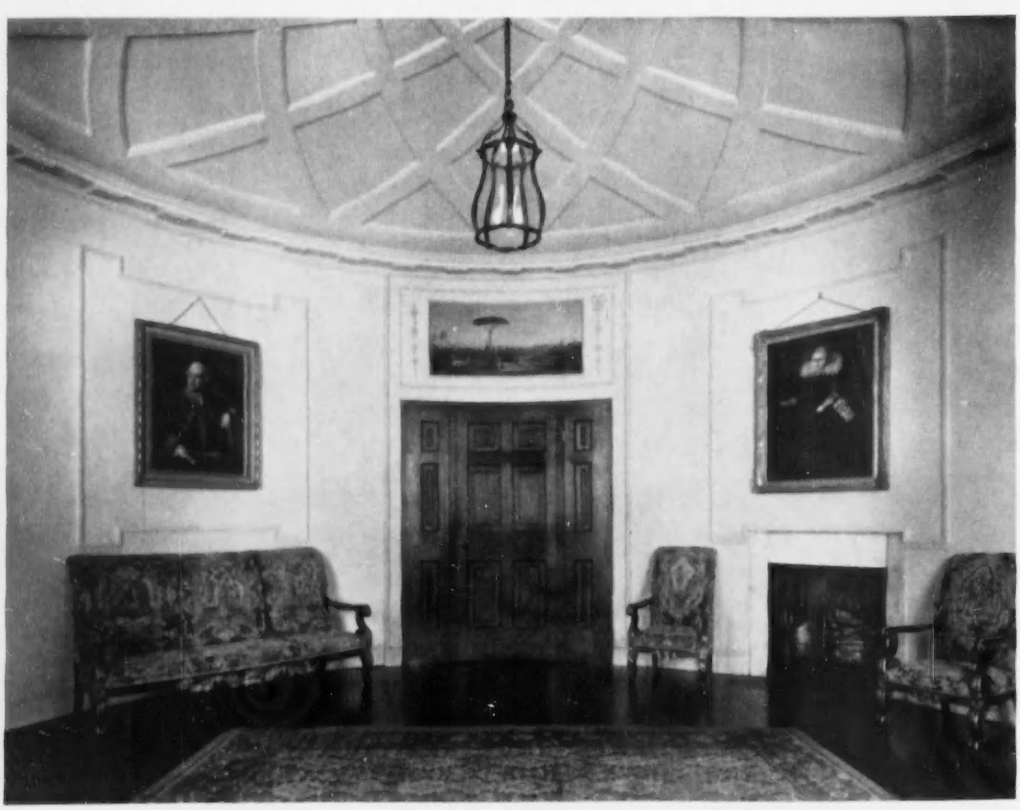


1.—THE ENTRANCE FRONT AS REMODELLED BY C. R. COCKERELL, *c.* 1825

Himself a man of scholarly and artistic tastes, it is to be assumed, he preferred the plans and personality of the younger man. Naturally Cockerell's designs were more original and distinguished; they also seem to have been more convenient, and capable of being carried out in stages, indeed over twenty years. The outcome successfully integrates much that existed with the fastidious grace of Neo-classicism and the homely charm suited to a country house: a combination typical both of Cockerell and of that synthesis—of Classical precision and empirical tradition—which, at its best, English domestic architecture since the Renaissance periodically achieves. Oakly Park is perhaps too composite and, indeed, modest a building to rank as one of Cockerell's outstanding works; but the more closely one studies its synthesis of virtues, the more attractive the performance appears.

His handling of the entrance front (Fig. 1) illustrates this contention. We found last week that the blocks at either end of it already existed when Haycock* had connected them by the three-storeyed central section with its slight lateral projections containing entrances of sorts; but that he proposed to form the principal entrance in a new south front. Cockerell retained the two west entrances, giving them porticos, and supplied Clive's need of a sizeable room for entertaining by bringing forward the front of the ground-floor room between them. The fenestration above seems not to have been altered, though he reinforced the attic storey to relate it to the porticos. The stepped composition, a little reminiscent of Nash's for Carlton House-terrace, gives the front a similar picturesque force, and at the same time has Classical distinction.

Going in by the southern of Cockerell's porticos we find ourselves in a round vestibule, its saucer-domed ceiling ornamented with interlacing segmental ribs (Fig. 2). Since a rotunda of the same diameter (22 ft.) is found in Haycock's earlier plan, undated but perhaps *c.* 1775, the idea was evidently his; but the restraint of the decoration, now uniformly white, suggests Cockerell. The three sets of mahogany doors are so designed that half only (whether central or to one side) opens, enabling those to the dining-room and drawing-room, in the sides, to appear opposite



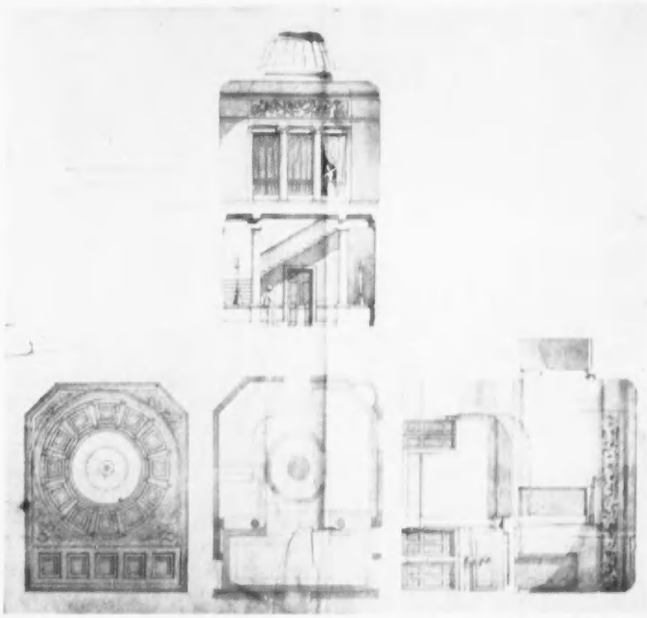
2.—THE CIRCULAR VESTIBULE: IT IS ENTERED FROM RIGHT-HAND PORCH IN FIG. 1

* Since this article was written Miss D. Stroud has shown me an unpublished letter indicating that Capability Brown was consulted at Oakly in 1772-74. In this light, it is possible that Haycock, the Shrewsbury architect, was following Brown's recommendations in the design of the west front. The entrance vestibule and drawing-room ceiling are unexpectedly reared for a provincial man, but have affinities with Brown's decorative style.

one another, though the openings are not quite so in fact. That in the illustration opens on the axis of the staircase hall (Fig. 4), which is discovered beyond a screen of yellow scagliola columns with Cockerell's characteristic Ionic capital derived from the Temple of Apollo at Bassae. In the alignment of the doors under the landing's gallery he had recourse to the same device of setting them in pairs, only half of which is functional.

His handling of the staircase hall (Fig. 4), while analogous to some of Holland's and the Wyatts', notably in a colonnade expressing the upper landing, is more original and more closely integrated. The ascent, beginning to one's left, is carried diagonally up three sides of the rectangular space, in which the canting of the corners enables the risers and rail to go in a subtly curving line. This originates at the foot, where the rail issues round the base of a truncated column related to those of the screen. The flat ceiling has coffered panels radiating from a glazed dome in the centre. Cockerell's sure touch with sculpture is given apt and personal expression by his introduction, in the upper section, of plaster copies of the frieze relief from Phygalea which he had himself discovered.

From the hall's right-hand corner as seen in Fig. 4 we can reach the principal room for which he was wholly responsible, the library (Fig. 7). The Hellenic style was particularly well suited to libraries, because bookcases could be effectively integrated with its



3.—COCKERELL'S DESIGNS FOR THE STAIRCASE HALL, 1823

rectangular forms. In this pleasing instance the centre of each wall is regarded as a solid, containing the fireplace, a double-door, a wide window, or (in the south side) separating windows; and the bookcases as "curtains" between them: flush on the long wall but projecting a little in the recesses in the end walls. These subtle variations of the rectilinear design underly the pleasure the room gives one. The chimney-piece is characteristic of Cockerell, with wide shelf carried on archaic shafts backed by slabs of green marble round a flat segmental arch; enhanced by the portrait above it of an Italian nobleman attributed to D. Puligo, and the gilded Worcester porcelain.

Adjoining in the east side, and opening from the hall by the door under the stairs, is the breakfast (now dining) room (Fig. 9): perfectly simple but with a fine inlaid "Bossi" chimney-piece probably from one of the rooms decorated for Lady Clive. So it is appropriate that a version of Nathaniel Dance's portrait of her great husband should hang over it. Both these rooms look eastward towards Ludlow and the Clee Hill over the parterre that was flanked by Cockerell's conservatory. A documented example of his work is the noble chimney-piece (Fig. 10)—a fusion of Greek and Baroque—in the large dining-room north of the entrance vestibule. Though the formation of this room was such an integral part of his plan for reconstructing the house, yet his detailed design for it was not made till 1836: I suspect because the room was not really needed till Harriet and Robert Clive's family began to grow up. Unfurnished as the room is at present, Cockerell's sure but slight ornamentation scarcely tells in a photograph, so that we must rely on a description in order to visualise the room in use.

But, before reading this, we will look at the drawing-room, to which it equally applies but which we have passed over as outside the Cockerell story. It is contained in the block forming the south-west corner of the house and shown by a drawing as already existing

4.—THE STAIRCASE, FROM THE VESTIBULE DOOR

5.—THE FOOT OF THE STAIRCASE, LOOKING NORTH-WEST

6.—THE DRAWING-ROOM. It survives from the old house and was decorated for Lady Clive, *c.* 1775-80.

in the mid 18th century. From its Adamsy frieze the room appears to date in its present form from *c.* 1775-80—that is, shortly after Lady Clive came to live at Oakly and began transforming the ancient house. The delicately modelled ceiling wreaths of vines and corn (recalling by its free naturalism Thomas Stocking's stucowork at Kyre and Bristol) suggests it was intended for a dining-room; and so it is named in Haycock's (?) plan of *c.* 1775—entitling him to the credit for the room's design. But the magnificent chimney-piece (Fig. 8) is twenty years earlier in character and is so like some in Lord Clive's London house, 45, Berkeley-square, built *c.* 1745, that it may have come from there. Over it hangs Lawrence's portrait of Lady Harriet. Visible in Fig. 6 are the two Claudes that belonged to Clive: *Cephalus and Procris* and a harbour scene; on another wall is his Poussin *The body of Phocion carried from Athens*. The furniture comprises fine Chinese Chippendale chairs and a wonderful Indian chair of ivory, probably a gift to the 2nd Lord Clive.

Little more than a decade after the house was at length finished, a young American lady, Miss Fay, was staying in the neighbourhood, and described it delightfully in her letters home.* She visualised Lady Harriet, as no doubt she was, as "a great personage, very tall, dignified, and as frigid as the Arctic ocean, of whom everybody stands in awe;" (before long Miss Fay was dilating on her warmth and kindness). So, when the party was invited to dine in January, 1852, "it was with beating heart I found myself at the hall door. Two footmen in red plush breeches, blue coats and silver buttons, and the groom of the chambers in black received us in the vestibule, where we took off our cloaks. The dignitary in black preceded us through the hall, and, throwing open the door, announced us. We found ourselves in a large and beautiful library, and an elegant circle of ladies and gentlemen rose to meet us. Lady Harriet received us with great dignity, and though no one was introduced, everyone spoke to us." (It turned out to be a family party; Lord Powis and the Dowager Lady Powis, the young Clives and Herberts and the Vicar of Bromfield). Presently "we found ourselves in a large dining-room hung with pictures, among which pre-eminent was the portrait of the great Robert Clive, grandfather of the present owner. In the centre of the table was a gilt plateau on which stood two immense candelabras with ornaments of China figures, and at the ends two similar but smaller ones. The portly butler, groom of the chambers, and half a dozen footmen in red plush and blue coats gave great elegance to the whole effect." The meal was enormous, but "there was no stiffness, no formality. Nothing could exceed the politeness of Miss Clive, and young Herbert knew and spoke well on every subject. I was particularly surprised by his knowledge of America." After dinner, "passing through the hall, immense coloured engravings of the Exhibition were pointed out to us, and then we entered the large and elegant drawing-room. On the walls were two Claudes, a Velasquez, and other originals by great artists. I told Miss Clive how much I had heard of her drawings and she brought in her portfolio, knelt on the floor with a candle in her hand and showed each one to us. Such skies, such effects, I never imagined to see in water-colours." Others of the party played the piano or sang German songs, then, "what do you think was asked for in this aristocratic circle—Negro melodies!! 'The Blue-tail fly' being received with acclamations."

The younger Robert Clive, some of whose drawings made with Laird at Nineveh were also shown during this pleasant

7.—COCKERELL'S LIBRARY. The double doors open to the drawing-room

* *Victorian Days in England* by Anna May Fay, Houghton Mifflin, 1923.

8.—THE DRAWING-ROOM FIREPLACE; ABOVE, LADY HARRIET CLIVE, BY LAWRENCE. (*Right*) 9.—IN THE BREAKFAST ROOM, LORD CLIVE, BY DANCE, ABOVE A "BOSSI" CHIMNEY-PIECE

evening, died two years later, leaving an infant son. In the following year, 1855, the barony of Windsor, created by Henry VIII, which had fallen into abeyance on the death of the last Earl of Plymouth, passed to Lady Harriet, his younger daughter, and, after her death in 1869, to her infant grandson. The latter, created in 1905 Earl of Plymouth, is remembered as an active First Commissioner of Works and for his quixotic preserving for the nation of the Crystal Palace (the prints of which Miss Fay had been shown in the hall), largely from his private resources. Lord Plymouth made his home at Hewell, the Worcestershire estate that Henry VIII had forcibly exchanged for Old Windsor with his forbear. His mother, Lady Mary, daughter of the Earl of Bradford, lived at Oakly Park till her death in 1889, and her daughters after her, till 1924, when Oakly was leased to Col. George Windsor-Clive, son of Robert Clive's younger brother. After the death in 1943 of the 2nd Earl of Plymouth, his son came to live and farm at Oakly Park.

He brought with him the paintings from Hewell, several of which are seen in the large dining-room (Fig. 10): *A Meet of the Quorn* (Ferneley), and a family group at Hewell by William Nicholson; but the *Peasants Drinking* (studio of Velasquez) was always in the house. In the drawing-room a Piero di Cosimo portrait and a Virgin and Child attributed to Van Dyck, and in the staircase hall several early Florentine pictures and a St. Sebastian (school of Leonardo) are from Hewell. But a notable Luini, *Holy Family*, is another of Clive's pictures. The remarkable painting from Hewell, hanging at the foot of the stairs and recently shown at the exhibition of English taste in the 18th century at Burlington House (No. 129), is by Piazzetta, Canaletto and Cimaroli. It was painted in 1722 in the series of fanciful *Tombs in honour of recently deceased Englishmen* commissioned by Owen McSwinney. It may have been acquired by the 5th Lord Plymouth, whose portrait by Battoni is seen in the Vestibule (Fig. 2). Of the Clive collection, now concentrated at Powis Castle, only those for which, presumably, Lady Clive had a particular affection found their way here. Thus combined, the assembly of pictures is a notable one. Yet perhaps those that best express the *genius loci* are the water-colours of the park sketched for Lady Harriet by de Wint.

10.—THE CHIMNEY-PIECE IN COCKERELL'S DINING-ROOM. The paintings to the right, by Ferneley and William Nicholson, are from Hewell

AUTUMN AND PERPETUAL STRAWBERRIES

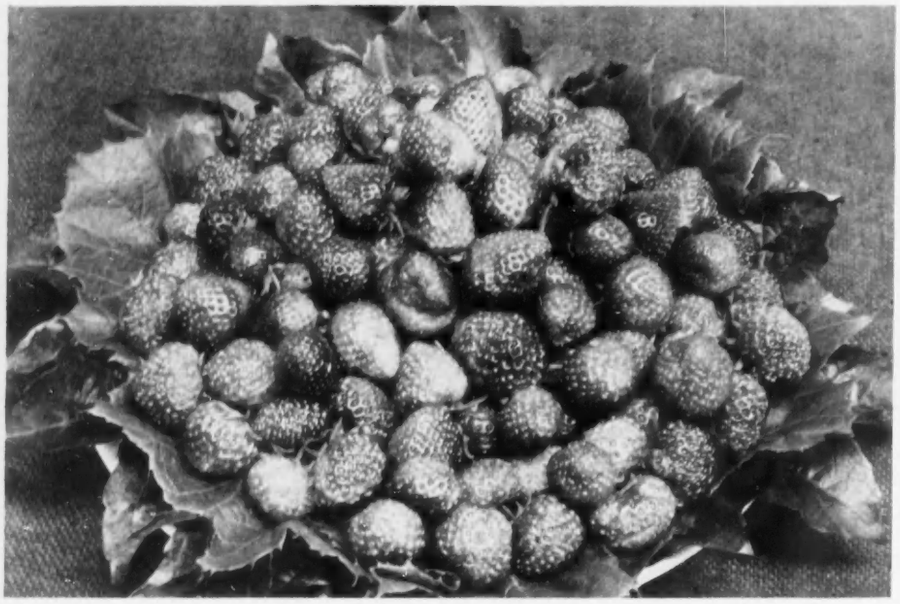
By EDWARD HYAMS

THE task of selecting those varieties of the autumn and perpetual-fruiting strawberries collectively known as *remontants* has been a long one and, as far as we are concerned, the selection we have made is as final as anything can be in fruit-growing: which simply means that it is final until a better variety is put into commerce by one of the plant-breeding nurseries, and that may happen to-morrow. In the course of the five-year trials we have incidentally learnt enough about the nature of strawberry plants to be able, in the case of future varieties, to make a preliminary selection without trial.

The facts about the *remontant* varieties seem to be something like this: all strawberry varieties may, in certain conditions, be perpetual or *remontant* in habit; the behaviour of a variety depends upon the amount of sunshine and length of day in the place where it is being grown. The variety will, in given conditions, produce either fruit-bud, or runners. Suppose a variety to behave in what we will call a balanced way in southern England, that is to produce an adequate amount of both fruit and runners to be of practical value to the grower, amateur or professional. The same variety, moved six or eight degrees of latitude farther south, may produce an excess of fruit bud, so that the fruit may become too small to be worth having, and few or no runners; moved, on the other hand, an equal distance towards the north, the same variety may tend to produce an excess of runners and little or no fruit bud. Royal Sovereign is *remontant* in parts of the West Indies; Auchincruive Climax produces hardly any runners and far too much fruit in, for example, parts of Maryland. Some of the varieties bred at the University of California produce, in conditions which are very exactly limited, more than twenty-two tons of fruit to the acre (say five times a good Sovereign crop), but, in those same conditions, no runners at all, so that growers have to have a nursery in another, and quite distant, place in order to propagate their stock.

Once this has been said it should be added that, for any given conditions of daylight hours, there is a range of varieties which will include ordinary single-crop varieties, true perpetuals, and two- or three-crop varieties. In southern England, and for that matter in nearly all Britain, Royal Sovereign is a typical one-crop variety, and Climax often a two-crop variety. We are aware that Climax has lost popularity owing to the physiological failing called yellows and streak. Selection over a number of years will produce a perfectly healthy bed of Climax not subject to this fault; I have seen beds in excellent condition which were four, five and even nine years old. The very high incidence of the trouble is almost certainly due to the propagation of whole clones from single plants in which the weakness was potential.

Of the eighty-odd varieties which are *remontant* anywhere in the neighbourhood of lat. 50 to 52° N., and which have been tried in our garden in Kent, we have rejected 76, among them several which we had recommended earlier, and which, on certain of their merits, were worthy of such recommendation. Varieties were rejected on several grounds: they might be too susceptible to virus disease collapse, e.g., the otherwise magnificent Géant Framboisé; they might produce too little fruit, or too much small fruit, or too much of their fruit too late to ripen properly. Each of the four varieties we have kept for permanent plantation was kept for a different reason. Our object was to have the longest possible season from the smallest number of trouble-free varieties.



A DISH OF ST. CLAUDE STRAWBERRIES. This variety will readily mature in summer as well as produce a later crop, so that its total season is very long

First, La Sans Rivale. Although this variety is apt, after three years, to go down with virus symptoms, it is worth growing, replanting every year with young plants from healthy crowns, because although not the largest cropper, it is the largest which is satisfactory in other respects. On an average strawberry soil, with average care and manuring, it will produce about twice as much fruit per season as Royal Sovereign (three or four times as much if given special care). The plants have rather sparse foliage and a stiff habit of growth. The fruit stalks are often stout and hard enough to stand up until the fruit is almost ripe. The crop begins, provided the plants are de-blossomed in May and until June 15, in mid-September, reaches a peak in mid-October and continues, declining, into November. If the plants are covered with cloches or Dutch lights in October, cropping will continue throughout November and, excepting in cold seasons, the fruit will continue to colour and look appetising into December. From about November 15 to about December 10, although the fruit looks handsome, it is tasteless. At the height of the season the taste is good and the berries are very sweet.

If the plants are given not merely glass cover, but heat in November and December, the taste is maintained. If artificial light be added to artificial heat, the Sans Rivale plants will continue flowering and maturing fruit right through the winter and into the spring. Where winter or early spring fruit is the gardener's object, however, it is best to take young plants of the August runner crop, and to keep them de-blossomed until the middle of October. If ordinary incandescent lighting is used winter cropping is not an economic proposition; in fact the strawberries will cost well over £1 per pound to grow. It can probably be done economically where mercury vapour lamps are used.

The fruit of Sans Rivale is conical and very regular: very large fruits are fan-shaped. The variety tends to produce rather few runners, but there are usually sufficient for propagation purposes; it also produces an excess of very small fruit unless about half the trusses are removed as they form, which practice greatly improves the size and quality of the fruit which is allowed to mature.

Second, St. Claude. If our garden were small and we had room for only one bed of strawberries, this is the variety we should choose, not only as a *remontant* but for all purposes. St. Claude will readily mature a summer as well as a later crop, so that its total season is very long. Plants will continue to bear useful crops for several years, and although a few will ultimately show virus symptoms, this trouble can be almost ignored with this variety. The difference in the size and quality of berries produced by young and old plants is so striking that annual replanting is well worth while. For this purpose runner production is more than adequate, and there is always a surplus of young plants for sale or for giving away to friends. If the summer crop is kept, that is, if the plants are not de-blossomed in the spring, the autumn crop will be smaller and shorter in duration.

The late crop begins in August and continues until mid-October. The fruit is large to enormous, perfectly conical in shape, dark crimson in colour, and sweet and high flavoured. The plants are neat, circular in habit, with foliage ample, and of a particularly fine, deep green. The variety is also partially bird-proof, for the fruit is often concealed by the leaves and the pickers have to search for it. This variety was, then, selected for all-round practical usefulness. The later, small fruit makes admirable jam, the berries remaining whole after cooking and being just the right size for that purpose. The total crop is not so large as that of Sans Rivale, but it is more conveniently "placed" in the year unless very late strawberries are required.

Third, Triomphe. At first glance this variety has so many disadvantages that it would seem to qualify for rejection. It has a sloppy, shapeless, sprawling habit of growth; the foliage is sparse and the leaves narrow and a rather poor colour. The fruit is a peculiar shape, round in plan and flat in section, like a large, thick button, and moreover the colour is from salmon pink to orange, which is not what people expect of a strawberry. The crop, from August to October, is continuous and quite large, but the berries are too soft to be packed or to travel, and they are, moreover, extremely susceptible to damage by botrytis fungus, especially in cold clay soil where one may easily lose half the crop.

Nevertheless, we kept this variety; we have never seen any virus symptoms in plants less than four years old; the fruit ripens well even in seasons devoid of sunshine and at very low temperatures; moreover the fruit, although enormous, never have the failing, common to the largest strawberry varieties, of being woolly and tasteless. They are, on the contrary, very juicy, slightly aromatic, and exceptionally sweet. This is the only strawberry I know which never calls for sugar. Runner production is adequate. De-blossom until June 15 for a good October crop. We have grown this variety in artificial heat and under artificial light throughout one winter, and it continued to flower and mature fruit until February.

Fourth, Kuntner's Pineapple Triumph. There are a number of ways of describing that kind of strawberry, which is, to the whole tribe of strawberries, what the muscat grape is to the tribe of grapes. We have generally referred to this flavour as musk; it is, or used to be, also called pineapple; perhaps the best word is "aromatic." It is usually found in varieties which, when ripe, are very dark in colour—raspberry-coloured rather than strawberry-red. It would be interesting to know whether the famous summer variety Waterloo was an aromatic: we have a variety which crops well in July-August, which is the colour of Burgundy when ripe, and which is aromatic; we believe that it may be Waterloo but have not been able to confirm this. However, Kuntner's Triumph is an aromatic, with this delicious musky flavour very strong, and that is our reason for keeping this fourth variety, all the other aromatic *remontants* having turned out to be even more troublesome to grow.

Not that Kuntner's is, in other respects, satisfactory. From its behaviour here we judge it to be a variety which would do much better in a Mediterranean climate, although it is an Austrian product. At least half the plants never bear any fruit, growing into immense bushes with countless runners. Only one-year-old plants can be relied on to bear fruit; it is free from virus symptoms, but it has a sloppy, untidy habit of growth, especially as to the fruit stalks, which are so weak that they lie flat on the ground as soon as the fruitlets form, so that the job of strawing this variety is extremely tedious.

The fruits are conical-angular; when half-ripe they look as if there is something wrong with them, being a sort of mahogany brown with red blotches, but this evens out into a rich burgundy red when they are fully ripe. Only then do they develop their full flavour, which is superb. The variety has never produced an early crop with us, most of the fruit being picked in August or early September.

WHERE IS THE OLD HORSE TO-DAY?

By R. S. SUMMERHAYS

MUCH information reached me concerning the 62-year-old gelding Old Billy following the publication of my letter *Longevity in Horses* in COUNTRY LIFE of November 24. His age needed no authentication, for Henry Harrison at the age of 17 first had him as a two-year-old, when he trained him to plough, and afterwards as a gin, or mill horse, and at his death on November 27, 1822, the old horse had been owned for many years by the Company of Proprietors of the Mersey and Irwell Navigation Company and had been used as a barge-horse. Henry Harrison knew him throughout his long life, Charles Towne and William Bradley painted him, his picture hangs in the Council Chamber of the Royal Veterinary College, and the skeleton of his skull was presented to the Manchester Museum.

So much for Old Billy. It is fairly safe to say that no other horse will ever attain so great an age; indeed, where are the old horses to-day? I never come across them or hear of them, which makes me wonder whether any exists to-day over the age of 35. If this is in fact so, it is certainly interesting in the light of further evidence of long-lived horses of bygone days, for it seems that some eighty years ago an Australian horse named Paramutta died at the age of 53, and various other animals, including a Welsh cob and a Shetland pony, lived into the fifties.

OLD BILLY IN 1822, THE YEAR OF HIS DEATH AT THE AGE OF 62, PAINTED BY CHARLES TOWNE

Something more ancient than these is to be found in an autobiography by H. J. Mulliner recently published. In 1872 his parents were living at Grove House, Chiswick, London. He records a mention of Grove House in *Anecdote Lives of Wits and Humourists*, by Jinks, which refers to an eccentric gentleman, the well-known Humphrey Morris, who lived there. This would have been about 150 years ago. The writer recalls how "on entering the courtyard we were assailed by a very numerous pack of curs in full cry. This was occasioned by Mr. Morris's humanity towards animals. All the stray dogs which happened to follow him in London, he sent down to this villa, where they were petted and pampered. He had a mare in his stables called Curious, who though attended and fed with the greatest care, was almost a skeleton from old age, *being turned of sixty*."

Jinks goes on to recount how the horses were turned out in the park, "where in sultry weather they reposed beneath the shade of the trees, while a boy was employed to flick the flies from their hides." At the time of writing, then, the old mare was alive and over sixty. By how much had she turned this great age, what was her age when she died and did she lower Old Billy's record? I should very much like to know.

If it be true that a hundred years ago horses lived to a much greater age than they do to-day, there must be reasons, and interesting reasons, for veterinary knowledge and treatment were then crude in the extreme. Various explanations suggest themselves, the first naturally being that perhaps, brought up under harsher conditions, living a tougher and less pampered life, only the fittest animals survived. This hardly seems to have been so with Old Billy, nor perhaps with Curious, although we know nothing of her circumstances.

Sir Gordon Richards has some illuminating remarks about stamina in his book, *My Story*. He was, of course, referring to race-horses and therefore what he says may not have much application to possible present-day softness, yet I think it may have some bearing on it. He writes: "It is extraordinary how prevalent this softness is in our horses to-day, and it is a clear indication that something is going wrong with our breeding. It is my belief that almost half our race-horses are inclined to be soft. I remember the day when you could just sit down and ride, and your horse would give you all he had got. But nowadays, for some reason, as many refuse to try as there are who will battle on. You would not credit the present number of soft horses unless you were race riding as much as I was. It is a serious matter, and one which I hope is exercising the best minds in the breeding world."

Suspicion falls upon breeding, that Sir Gordon makes clear. Can it be that our breeding generally is at fault? Whatever may be the case in recent blood-stock breeding, it would be hard to say that the same trouble exists in general breeding. Can the hunter of to-day do his job as well as his forbears did, however long the day, however hard the hunt? Does to-day's polo pony pack up before the chukka is finished? It can hardly be thought that more careful or different methods of breeding could to-day add a couple of decades to the lives of horses.

It can be assumed that both these old horses were fed on hay in winter, grass and hay in summer, with corn in quantities suitable to the work to be carried out. This has always been standard feeding. To-day this is much varied by some, in the way of cubes and cake and other specially and scientifically mixed feeds. These latter notwithstanding, I cannot see that modern feeding should have any adverse effect on the age of the modern horse.

The conditions under which horses are stabled and groomed to-day, their health looked after and cleanliness watched are immeasurably better than those of a hundred years ago, except in the case of the wealthy and well-to-do owners. Is the present day horse over-pampered? It is certain that many people have hazy ideas as to how much work a horse should do to keep him in health. Too much food and too little exercise are bad for a horse, as for a man, and are said to shorten life.

Although a combination of all the above may have some influence, I think it is more likely to be found in too much so-called kindness, but much more as the result of to-day's economic position. Do horse-owners nowadays put down their animals in the mistaken belief that they are past work, have broken down (which trouble can so often be overcome by a real spell at grass) or suffer from rheumatism, wind trouble or some other ailment? Perhaps the most cogent reason for the general absence of really old horses is the economic position and the shortage of labour. Can people afford nowadays to keep even the well-loved horse when it is past work? There must be very few.

As though to emphasise this economic fact, the meat market offers prices unheard of in the old days for animals, young and old, without regard to breed or size. I remember as a boy the familiar sight in London of horse-flesh being sold in the streets. A large handful of pieces on a shewer could be bought for a penny or two. To-day, such is the demand for horse-flesh for human and other consumption, that it is retailed at 2s. 4d. a pound.

Various homes for old horses flourish in this country and receive a large measure of support from the public, largely as their policy is to rescue overworked and old and ill-used horses and ponies. In this they carry on a humanitarian work. Animals are destroyed if they are thought to be suffering or past a useful existence, but otherwise good homes are found for them. A certain section of the horse-world think sentiment plays too great a part in these organisations and that it would be kinder to put most of the rescued ones down.

How happy is an old horse, suffering no disabilities when turned out to grass? Horses dislike rain, wind and cold; a combination of two or all may inflict real suffering. Yet those without knowledge of the habits of horses will be surprised to learn that they will never go into a field-shelter, except in really hot weather, and then only if pestered by flies. The answer to whether an old horse should be put down is one which the owner must decide. Sentiment and economics, not forgetting that he eats valuable hay and grass, must always conflict, and I cannot help feeling that herein lie the reasons for the absence of the truly old horse.

SOME FRAIL MEMORIAL

A Golf Commentary by **BERNARD DARWIN**

THE late Lord Cavan once told me that on his first visit to St. Andrews he was introduced to an old gentleman, a member of the Royal and Ancient, whom I have long striven in vain to identify, since Lord Cavan had forgotten his name. He asked very politely how he had liked the course, to which the visitor replied that he had enjoyed it very much, but thought it a pity there was no system of signposts directing the pilgrim's attention to the places of which he had heard so much, such as the Hole o' Cross or the Station Master's Garden. "Good God!" said the old gentleman and turned his back with a savage snarl.

It was no doubt a rather outrageous suggestion, though the poor innocent Field-marshal meant no harm and was inspired only by the most pious curiosity. For my part I don't think I want to see even a modest placard announcing "This way for Hell." At the same time I have often in my mind's eye adorned great courses with little tablets bidding the passer by shed a tear for some once famous putting green, now no more, either absorbed into the fairway or covered by the jungle tide of the rough. St. Andrews is, indeed, the only celebrated links on which I cannot erect any of these imaginary little tombstones. Go back far enough into the past and no doubt there would be plenty of scope. When there were two-and-twenty holes there was, for instance, a green somewhere between the present home hole and the burn. I should like some small sign to mark the place in the midst of that now vast and grassy plain where there was once a big bunker called, I think, Halketts, or that other sacred spot near the Principal's Nose, where the now unknown Thomas tethered his cow, and the cow, walking round and round, made the bunker called Tam's Coo. But all this is history, some of it very ancient history. For us who are modern tees have, indeed, gone farther and farther back at certain holes, but the greens are all in their old traditional places. There is no need for monumental masonry.

* * *

There must be plenty of chances at Prestwick, though I admit I could not direct the mason. When there were twelve holes and all of them this side of the now vanished wall, there must have been some of the dearest little secret nooks of putting greens now merged in the general landscape. I have a notion where the Lunch House green was, and I believe a learned antiquary once identified for me the one with the loveliest name of all, the Green Hollow, but memory has failed me. On the other hand, there is another championship course, where I hope to be watching the Open this very year, Hoylake; almost of my own playing knowledge I could dot the noble expanse with memorials that should demand from the more romantically minded a passing tribute. I remember that on one very hot day of a blazing summer dear old Jack Morris kindly insisted on walking me out to the site of the old Meols green. It was in a small forest of bents and rough somewhere between the Cop and the Briars, and all trace of a green had long departed.

That I should never have known, but the old Far green in the corner, the old Dee, the old Alps, the old Hilbre and the old Rushes—I could put up my little tombstone on all of these. One grows a little careless or perhaps time heals the wound; the last time I was in the neighbourhood I actually forgot to see whether there was still the little pond behind the Hilbre green. And there is the old Royal, too. As the crowd swirls along to the 17th green, bringing home the winner of this Championship, it will rush all unheeding over the old turf which was once the home green where many an historic putt has been holed or missed.

The fisher baits his angle, the hunter twangs his bow;
Little they think on those strong limbs that moulder there below.

* * *

Then there is St. George's at Sandwich. The player who is now wondering, under the shadow of the Maiden, what club to take for his second to carry the sandy wilderness before him would once have been putting at the fifth hole. And there is a poor dead green over the second row of Corsets which was once the ninth green and another in the deep hollow below the eleventh tee. There was one of the great blind second shots so typical of old Sandwich. Honesty compels the admission that it was not comparable in merit to the present tenth perched on its hideously narrow plateau, but it had a certain excitement of its own. I can drop something more than a merely formal tear over it. And then if the pilgrim wants a really historic hollow let him look a little to the left as he approaches the eighteenth tee. "Can that ever have been a green?" he will ask incredulously, as he gazes on that impenetrable tangle of rough grass that was once the 17th. Take it for all in all I suppose that was the flukiest hole in the world. It was hard work not to run when you and your partner were all square and both balls had disappeared over the bank into the deep beyond. What had befallen them there? One might be nestling at the hole side and the other have raced fifteen yards away. It was a very bad hole, but some of the worst kings in history deserve to be remembered and so do the worst holes. I am prepared to put up a broken column there or even a small angel.

* * *

When it comes to hollows there is one by the side of the railway line at Aberdovey that I cannot leave out, and it also was the 17th. It had originally been christened in Welsh, by my uncle who designed it, as the Crochan and it had a certain accidental charm. It is now utterly derelict and full of slate, but it was amusing and even agitating in its way, for there was always a hope of a three. If the pitch could be played boldly enough and yet not too boldly, the ball ran up the bank and then came back with sweet docility to the hole side. Unfortunately it was the sort of thing that has always seemed to happen to one's adversary rather than oneself. In the summer holidays the house on the other side of the railway was full of Fosters and they would come pouring out from tea to watch a crucial finish.

I must not go on about Aberdovey, though I could make a perfect dogs' cemetery of it with my unobtrusive little tombstones. That is because before we came home beside the sand-hills—and there are few finer home-commings in all golf—we travelled a great deal of the way both out and home on the comparatively open and featureless country. There are all sorts of little plateaux and nooks there which still mean a good deal to me, but to very few other people. When a course is changed in a wholesale way naturally the monuments abound. Rye, for instance, is full of the ghosts of greens since such drastic changes had to be made, owing to the popularity of Camber Sands. How wonderfully lucky we were to get such great substitutes, for I think it is idle for the most sentimental to deny that the present course is better than ever the old one was.

I could go on with this "Old Mortality" occupation for ever, but I must name just one more little monument. Probably the next course I shall see will be Formby and I must have one there for the old fourth (or third), with a fascinating tee shot skirting a line of trees. At least that is how I remember it, but perhaps it is all a dream. At least I have not imagined the blind green in the hollow where you rang a warning bell to say you had holed out and were now going adventuring down the great and secret valleys beyond.

TRESPASSERS UPON THE FORESHORE

By **W. J. WESTON**

WHAT a joyous concourse is here! This pleasant stretch of sand, warmed by the high sun of summer while it awaits the returning tide, is plentifully sprinkled with those about to bathe, those luxuriously recovering after their strenuous tussle with the waves, and those well content to be as the lotus-eaters and to let the world roll on with its troubles while they lie void of care:

Surely, surely, slumber is more sweet than toil, the shore
Than labour in the deep mid-ocean, wind and wave and oar;
Oh rest ye, brother mariners, we will not wander more.

And these are all wrongdoers, all trespassers upon Crown property; for neither the Crown nor any to whom the Crown has assigned the property has given licence to them to be where they are. They trespass as they would, being unauthorised, trespass in Woolwich Arsenal or in Portsmouth Dockyard. If an absurdly over-zealous agent of the Crown, attended maybe by a policeman to signify that law was with him, appeared requiring them to leave, they must needs fold up their tents and, not at all silently, steal away. A malignant ogre he would be, exercising his legal right only to curtail pleasure and for no good reason. For no harm is being done to Crown property. The oncoming waves will cleanse up litter that is left, and no proprietary rights can develop.

About the right to expel, however, there is no doubt. This is how the law was expressed in Llandudno Urban District Council v. Woods (1899, Ch.): "I am bound in strict law to hold that the sands of the seashore are not a highway. The Council were entitled to treat every bather, every nursemaid with a perambulator, every boy riding a donkey and every preacher as a trespasser."

The holiday resort acquires the foreshore from the Board of Trade, either permanently by way of sale or temporarily by way of lease; and the holiday resort does give licence to visitors, for great is the revenue from these visitors. The licence, however, is hedged about by conditions; and he that ignores the conditions becomes as though no licence had been given. He is a trespasser to be expelled. Only authorised vendors of ice-cream may offer their wares on the foreshore, only authorised entertainers solicit your support. In Ramsgate Corporation v. Debling (1906) the Court decided that the townsfolk were not entitled to place chairs on the foreshore, even though they asserted a long-continued practice.

In the Llandudno case the Council were reluctant to allow a militant preacher to point out the errors of the creeds conflicting with his. They would not have religious strife on a foreshore dedicated to relaxation and enjoyment; and, while they failed to obtain an injunction forbidding the preaching, they obtained a declaration that the preacher was a trespasser. And the assignees of the Crown's rights may, and do, prescribe such things as the minimum amount of covering that propriety demands.

Tolerance of entry upon the foreshore in order to take what the foreshore offered there

THE TAPESTRY SQUIRE

HE rides across a woven world
His bright head bared to rigid breeze,
The banneret above unfurled
Beneath the stitched immobile trees.

And yet he lives! Some dame unknown
Wrought him aware that he was here,
And skilfully in craft has shown
This youth who yet must win his spurs

A nimble trick of light and shade,
His comely face turned just that way,
The jaunty manner so portrayed,
The careless grace of his array.

His knight precedes armed cap-à-pie,
A jogging image, tower of steel,
A figurehead of chivalry
Deftly designed from helm to heel.

But that fair squire with yellow hair
Is warm and with a vital spark,
I think he leaves the arras there
To seek his true love after dark!

HYLDA TERENCE MARTIN.

may have been, a long-continued tolerance; but, with the cessation of the tolerance, the entry, too, must cease. Here is one that, ever since he was trusted with a gun, has shot wild duck on the foreshore. He is told that he must stop and he protests: his father and his father's father, the lads of the village from a time ancient as the hills, have shot there. If only he could have shown that for over twelve years he had occupied that stretch without being challenged, there could have been no answer to his claim. But, to be sure, he cannot affirm this. For the sea has been in operation against him; its recurrent successful invasions of the area have precluded a continuous occupation.

He might have succeeded, too, if he had proved a custom to do something on the foreshore—to dry nets there or deposit oysters for instance. But he could not successfully claim, even on the ground of immemorial custom, a right to take anything away, wild duck or anything else. That was decided in Fitzhardinge (Lord) v. Purcell (Ch. 1908), where the judge refused a claim of right to shoot wild-fowl; he said: "With regard to the alleged common law right for all the King's subjects to shoot wild-fowl at their will and pleasure on the foreshore and in the bed of tidal navigable rivers, I have failed to find any suggestion of the existence of such a right in any of the authorities which were cited to me in argument, or which I have myself consulted on the point."

Unless the shooting interferes with a proprietary use of the foreshore there would seem to be little point in denying such right to the public. The right seems to be recognised in Scotland. In the case Hope v. Bennewith (1904) the Lord Justice-Clerk said: "I know of no authority to prevent the public using a gun on the foreshore. The rights of the public as regards the foreshore seem to me to be higher than those of ordinary servitude. They are truly rights remaining in the Crown for public benefit." It may be though that, as in England, if the owner of the foreshore, the Crown or another, would do on the foreshore what was incompatible with fowling, then the fowling must end.

CORRESPONDENCE

SNATCHING THE PRIZE

SIR,—Shooting near here by myself and without a dog, I got a snipe, which fell to the left on a bank clear of the bog and easily visible. As I judged my snipe to be dead, I decided to walk out the remaining half of the bog before picking up the bird on the bank. The bog measures only about 50 yds. by 20 yds., but can usually be relied on for two or three snipe.

After walking a dozen or more paces, I noticed out of the corner of my eye a large bird behind me which I imagined to be a pigeon. It was flying away from where my snipe had fallen. I fired at the large bird, and it appeared that part of it dropped into the bog at the far end. I then realised that a hawk had tried to collect my snipe. The hawk flew on and I was lucky to recover a very good sized snipe after several minutes' search in the bog.—A. H. HAMILTON, *Ochiltree, Marble Hill, Port Na Blagh, Co. Donegal, Eire.*

WAS THE TERRIER SLIPPING?

SIR,—My wife and I were the witnesses of an unusual incident during the recent cold spell when our little Norwich terrier disappeared on the edge of a frozen gravel pit. We found him eventually, standing on the ice sniffing at a peculiar furry object which on closer inspection proved to be a coypu.

Neither animal was in its element on the slippery surface and it was a novelty for our terrier to discover a wild animal which would not or could not run away.

The result of the encounter was therefore an honourable draw, and it made me wonder what would have happened to the combatants on dry land, for our terrier will normally attack most creatures that move, regardless of size.—M. C. LITTON, *The Mill House, Lyng, Norfolk.*

UPHILL WORK

SIR,—Since various theories have been put forward to explain the lynchets or earth baulks outlining Celtic field systems these photographs may be of interest. They show a method of cultivation aimed at avoiding their formation.

Both the hoeing and ploughing on fields on the southern slope of St. Martin's, Scilly Islands, are deliberately done the hard way, up the slope, to counteract the downhill creep of the surface soil. Nevertheless in the older fields there is a decided step down from the hedge at the upper end and a corresponding soil accumulation on its other side from the next field, which seems to bear out the significance of a hedge in lynchet formation. With the hedges removed a decided terracing would be apparent.—MARGARET JONES (Mrs.), *Moseley, Birmingham.*

ARTISTS' LICENCE

SIR,—In your issue of February 16 Sir Arthur Hutchinson asks whether other reputable topographical painters besides Samuel Scott have taken substantial liberties with their objects. Did not Turner once eliminate an inconvenient island that spoiled the composition of his view of Richmond Hill?

This reminds me that the "notorious" Marquess of Queensberry is said, on no substantial authority, to have had a slice cut out of an island that spoiled his view, from Queensberry House, across the river to the bank on which Turner painted.—H. W. VOXALL, 15, *Albert court, Kensington Gore, S.W.7.*

We hope to publish an article about artists' licence shortly.—ED.]

IN THE SHADES

SIR,—I wonder whether anyone can explain the use of the word shades as applied to the tap-room in coaching inns which was frequented by the humbler fry? Shades are to be found in Sussex, at Cuckfield, Brighton and Worthing, and no doubt at other places as well.—A. H. BELL (Colonel), *York House, Portugal street, W.C.2.*

This usage originated in Brighton early in the 19th century, when the premises of the Old Bank were turned into a bar. One of the entrances was in the Pavilion Shades, an underground passage from the Pavilion built for the convenience of the Prince Regent, and the new owner, a Mr. Savage, adopted the name for his bar. It was quickly copied by other publicans, and is now fairly common as a term for wine vaults, not only in this country, but also in the United States.—ED.]

WHAT WERE THE GAMES?

SIR,—With reference to the letter in your issue of January 26, I have never seen a board similar to the Georgian games board, but I have a stool identical to the one in the other illustration. It is made of a very strong heavy wood used extensively in Ceylon for furniture-making. I bought my stool from a dealer of curios in Colombo and it was explained to me that the board was for gambling and the stool was the scoring board. Of those playing the game one of the number acts as banker, and he throws the dice in the ordinary way into the central cavity and the others joining in the game stake their bets and place their coins into the rows of seven cavities on the two sides of the stool. The "kitty" is placed in the hollows on each end of the centre cavity. Ordinarily, coins are staked, but in some cases precious stones are substituted.

I have also another gambling board. This is made of wood stained black and carved in the shape of a fish about 18 inches long and cut into halves lengthwise, each half being hinged together by two hinges. The outside of the fish is carved, showing the head, fins, scales and tail. The inside of the fish when opened has a row of seven shallow cups in each half. The head is hollowed out and into the hollow the dice are thrown. The cups—fourteen in all—are made of ivory and the inside of the fish is carved from the tip of the nose to the end of the tail. The ivory cups are, I believe, quite unusual.—C. M. POPE, *The Grange, Oborne, Sherborne, Dorset.*

FUTURE OF THE KENNET AND AVON CANAL

SIR,—Mr. Ward asks (February 16) when the last boat negotiated the Devizes flight of locks on the Kennet and Avon Canal with even ten tons of cargo aboard, but I am afraid that the answer is not available without search. The question has, however, no bearing on the question of reopening the canal, as for many years before nationalisation it was owned by the Great Western Railway and all steps were taken to discourage traffic, with the result that there was no commercial traffic. Section 17 of the Regulation of Railways Act, 1873, required railways who owned canals to keep them in a navigable state, and to a large extent this was done in the case of the Kennet and Avon Canal, for when the G.W.R. handed it over to the British Transport Commission it was navigable throughout. Once it was out of railway hands traffic started to reappear, but this was soon stopped when the canal was closed for "repairs," and it has never since been navigable throughout. The B.T.C. have done little or no maintenance, with the result that hardly a mile is usable. Moreover, the B.T.C. have admitted their failure to maintain the

FIELDS BEING HOED AND PLOUGHED UPHILL IN THE SCILLY ISLANDS TO PREVENT SOIL CREEP

See letter: Uphill Work

canal in compliance with their statutory obligations.

The Kennet and Avon Canal Association is pressing for the reopening of the canal to navigation, and surely Mr. Ward does not think that we should pursue this aim if we did not have a good case. He says that he has seen no realistic estimates of the situation, so I would state that the B.T.C. give a figure of £500,000 as needed fully to rehabilitate the canal so that it can carry a heavy traffic. This Association has, however, consulted a leading canal engineer, who gives a figure of £325,000. To both figures must be added the yearly maintenance costs of about £40,000. Not only has this Association considered the cost side of the matter, but we have investigated the revenue side, and there is no lack of cargoes offered, or even of carrying firms willing to start business. Cargoes offered include road stone (100,000 tons per annum, rising to a much bigger figure) from Bath to London, which as a start would produce about £50,000 per annum in tolls—enough to cover yearly maintenance alone. Other cargoes offered are considerable quantities of paper pulp, coke breeze, tea, timber and grain, and once traffic started it would no doubt increase. Finally, to the revenue side must be added tolls from pleasure craft, estimated at £40,000 per annum, and also charges for wharfage and storage.

In any business nothing will flourish if the business is not modernised or if it is starved of capital and publicity, but this is exactly what has happened to most of our waterways since nationalisation. Moreover, the best and cheapest way to keep a waterway navigable with a good depth of water and to stop the lock gates getting fouled by mud is to keep traffic on the move. Improve the waterways and traffic will return, greatly relieving the roads of much traffic that ought never to be there. Modern water transport is far from slow and can beat rail traffic over a distance.

Why, therefore, throw away means of communication that are there for the using? Modern industry will soon find a use for them, and they are a sure way of helping to lower costs. Perhaps someone will say just how much it would cost to abandon the Kennet and Avon Canal. Whatever the figure, it will compare very unfavourably with the profit that would accrue to the nation if it were again navigable.—D. D. HUTCHINGS, Hon. Sec., Kennet and Avon Canal Association, Reading Branch, *The Coppice, Lower Earley, Reading.*

PEACOCK BUTTERFLY ABROAD EARLY

SIR,—On one of the coldest days of early February, with a bitter wind blowing, I was surprised to see a peacock butterfly. It was a perfect specimen, as if it were newly hatched. Could this have been possible?—E. M. K. BEISIEGEL, *The Croft, Hartwell, Northampton.*

[Newly-hatched peacock butterflies are to be seen only in the summer. This specimen was one that had emerged from hibernation some five or six weeks before the normal time.—ED.]

BALSCADDEN, A GREAT ALL-ROUNDER IN 1910-15

See letter: Great All-rounders.

GREAT ALL-ROUNDERS

SIR,—In your issue of February 23 your Racing Correspondent has contributed a very interesting article on great all-rounders. There can have been few greater than Balscadden, a chestnut horse by Pilot, foaled in 1907. I append a list of the races he won.

In 1910 he won a mile plate and three-year-old hurdle race of 1½ miles in Ireland. In 1912 he won the Prince Edward Handicap of two miles at Manchester and the Newbury Autumn Cup, of two miles, one furlong, carrying 8 st. 2 lb., on the flat and, over hurdles, the Grande Course des Haies d'Auteuil of three miles, one furlong, and the Liverpool Handicap Hurdle Race of two miles. In 1913 he again won the Newbury Autumn Cup, with 8 st. 7 lb., on the flat, and won the Park Maiden Steeplechase of two miles at Hurst Park and the Tantivy Steeplechase at Gatwick, also of two miles. In 1914 he won the Prix des Drags at Auteuil, the Liverpool November Handicap Hurdle and the Park Chase at Hurst Park. In 1915 he won the Champion Steeplechase at Hurst Park and finished 7th in the Grand National, after being brought down during the first circuit. He carried 11 st. 8 lb. I remember this race well. Balscadden jumped the water jump in front of the stands about 200 yards behind any horse left in the race at that stage and, going round the second time on his own, gradually caught up and passed a number of horses still in the race and was going faster than any of those in front of him at the finish. I have little doubt that Balscadden would have won easily had he escaped mishap, and have always understood that this view was held by his trainer, who also saddled Jacobus, who finished second, beaten only two lengths by Ally Sloper. Balscadden was thought to be the better of the two at the weights.

It would be interesting to know whether any of your readers can recall a better all-rounder than Balscadden, who, incidentally, was an entire horse and retired to the stud in 1916 and sired some winners.—ERIC S. T. JOHNSON, *Cavalry Club, Piccadilly, W.1.*

[We reproduce a photograph of Balscadden, taken by W. W. Rouch.—ED.]

HORIZONTAL FLUES

SIR,—With reference to the flue-tunnels of the Mendip lead mineries mentioned in your issue of February 16, your readers may be interested to know that a number of more or less horizontal flues may still be found at the disused smelt mills in the Yorkshire dales. These flues, contemporary with those on the Mendips, are often comparatively short, connecting the hearths with a chimney built on higher ground, and would appear to be primarily expedients for gaining height without the expense of a tall chimney.

The remains of one remarkably long flue-tunnel, which must, however, have proved most efficient in collecting lead deposit from the vapour, may be seen a few miles north-west of Wensley. Starting at Keldhead Mill, it travels along the ground for over a mile and a half, rising from the 875 to the 1,225 feet contour, and terminates in a chimney which, together with the last hundred yards or so of the flue, it shares with a second mill on Cobscar Rake. For the greater part of its length the flue is now only a line of rubble on the moor, but one section above Cobscar Mill still retains the arched roof built of stone and originally covered with turves. The chimney is in a fairly good state of preservation and can be seen for miles around. I enclose photographs of the flue-tunnel and chimney.—T. HAROLD LODGE, 78, *Huddersfield-road, Brighouse, Yorkshire.*

IN A BELGIAN NATURE RESERVE

SIR,—Being the founder, in 1926, of the Elephant Training Centre of Gangala na Bodio, Belgian Congo, I read with pleasure the article by my friend Tracy Philipps, *Discoveries in an African Nature Reserve* (January 26).

From 1926 until 1940 I was in charge of all the operations concerning the elephants: capture, training and also setting those wonderful animals to work. When the Garamba National Park was created in 1938, I became its first Conservateur, though keeping the management of the elephant farm as well. I had to leave my charges in June, 1940, in order to rejoin the Army, but as soon as the war was over I returned to the Congo, where I was put in office as Chief Game Warden, Belgian Congo. In this capacity I still had Gangala na Bodio under my authority; the elephant centre was re-organised and became, in 1951, the *Station de la Chasse* establishment, which has to deal with all the game problems such as the capture of wild animals, experiments related to the miscellaneous pest-controls, training of the Game Department personnel and so on.

May I therefore point out that the old Elephant Training Centre of Gangala na Bodio is, fortunately, still in existence, though only a section of the *Station de la Chasse*? Regarding the subject of the elephant population of the Garamba, it does not seem to me, who have known the district for more than thirty years, that it is decreasing; on the contrary. Now, the figures quoted for the losses inflicted on the elephants by the catching parties in 1947 and 1948 are absolutely abnormal, for, in those years, we had only inexperienced white personnel. Before the war we used to shoot fewer than twenty full-grown beasts every year, and to catch about the same number of young ones, aged about 15. At the present time, and since 1950 or

RUINS OF A LEAD MILL AT COBSCAR, YORKSHIRE. ON THE RIGHT IS THE HORIZONTAL FLUE FROM KELDHEAD MILL, OVER A MILE AND A HALF AWAY. (*Middle*) CHIMNEY SHARED BY THE TWO MILLS. (*Right*) A SECTION OF THE FLUE THAT RETAINS ITS ARCHED ROOF

See letter: Horizontal Flues.

so, the number of elephants shot in defence of the personnel is practically nil.

There is another point to which I would like to draw attention: it is the name itself of Gangala na Bodio or, more correctly, as in the native speech, Gangala Badio. Gangala meaning hill in *lingala*, and Badio being the surname of a well known man of the Garamba country, the accurate translation is thus Badio's Hill and not Bushbuck Hill. Badio, who died in the early years of this century, was famous in the Garamba, for he had had both hands amputated when a child (around the 1850s), following the sentence of a local tyrant who had also condemned Badio's mother to death. When we (the Belgians) arrived in the country in 1897 (Chaltin's expedition to the Bahr el Ghazal against the Dervishes) Badio, who belonged to the noble family of the Avongara, was then a little chief whose village occupied the site of the *Station de la Chasse*.

May I add that Badio's story was still alive in the memories of the local folk a few years ago. I possess a good photograph of the poor unlucky fellow, made in 1906 by Colonel E. Muller, who was at that time chief of the Dungu district.—P. P. M. OEFERMANS (Lt.-Col., retd.), 120, *Avenue Franklin Roosevelt, Brussels.*

PORTRAIT PROBABLY OF BARONESS BURDETT-COUTTS, ABOUT 1850

See letter: The Portrait of a Philanthropist

MASONS' MARKS

SIR,—Illustrating the article *An Arctic Fortress* by Mr. Colin Wyatt (February 9) is a photograph of a stone signed "Guilford Long of Rotherhithe fecit 1754." After the signature there is a representation of an axe. Is it a stonemason's axe?

This inscription reminded me of a much earlier one, beneath the west window in the tower of Uggeshall Church, Suffolk, dating from about 1520. It asks for prayers for the soul of John Bale and his wife Margory. At the end of it there are two shields. The first displays an axe and an object which may be a T-square; the second is carved with a set-square and a T-square. May these be regarded as the marks of the masons who carved the inscription?—F. A. GIRLING, *Essex.*

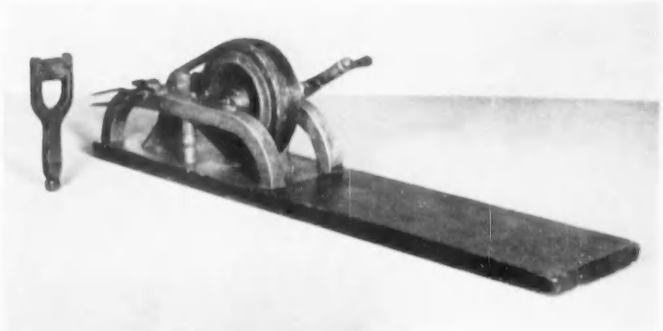
THE PORTRAIT OF A PHILANTHROPIST

SIR,—I enclose a photograph of a painting which I recently bought at an auction sale in Harrogate. I have since had the picture, which was unframed at the time of purchase, cleaned and restored, and our local dealer considers it is a good painting. At the time of purchase, chalked on the back of the canvas was "Baroness Burdett-Coutts." I should esteem your opinion on the possible identification of the subject and the possible or probable painter.—H. BANKS FEARNLEY, *Highfield House, Idle, Bradford.*

The portrait is probably that of Baroness Burdett-Coutts (1814-1906), youngest daughter of Sir Francis Burdett and heiress to the great fortune of her maternal grandfather, Thomas Coutts, the banker. There is a resemblance in features and figure to other known portraits of her, which show her to have been tall and slender, with a long thin face and an unsmiling but kindly expression. She habitually dressed her hair in the manner shown in the portrait. Angela Georgina Burdett, who assumed the additional surname of Coutts on coming into her fortune in 1837, devoted her life to philanthropic works, and for her services to the nation she was in 1871 created a peeress in her own right. The portrait, the date of which can probably be placed at about 1850, is well painted and reveals the essential character of this great Victorian figure. From among the numerous possible painters it is impossible to make any reliable suggestion.—ED.

OLD KITCHEN GADGETS

SIR,—I was much interested to see the photograph of the so-called ancient rotating potato-peeler at Gainsborough Old Hall, Lincolnshire, which illustrated the letter *Kitchen Gadgets* from Mrs. Margaret Jones (COUNTRY LIFE, February 2). Mrs. Jones is quite right that it would not perform very efficiently with the eyes of potatoes. The answer is that it is wrongly described and is an apple-parer, not a potato-peeler. An almost identical machine, but with table clamp attachment and designated the "Gnom" apple-parer, is illustrated on page 354 of *The Gardener's Assistant* (Vol. II, new ed., 1903). The description says "The Apple-Parers can be had in several forms and sizes; one type is an ingenious little machine, the Gnom, which can be screwed on to a kitchen table and which pares, cores, and slices at one operation. It can be bought at as low a price as 3s. In the larger machines increased strength is obtained and contrivances are added by which the cores are forced off automatically, the peelings are cast on one side, and the apples are cut into slices instead of into a continuous ring. The fruits can only be done singly, but with a little experience in the 'feeding' as much as 80 bushels of apples a day have been done by the larger machine by hand power."



AN AMERICAN APPLE-PARER OF ABOUT 1850

See letter: Old Kitchen Gadgets

In the 19th century and earlier, when preparation of dried apple rings for winter use was a normal autumn job in country households, apple-parers seem to have been home-made in a much wider diversity of designs in America than they were in England, where they were commercially produced. In COUNTRY LIFE of November 28, 1952, Mr. James Keillor, of New York, illustrated two out of the many individually made specimens in his collection. Enclosed is a photograph of another American specimen which was formerly in Mr. Keillor's collection and which he kindly presented to me.

This example dates from about 1850, is mainly of wood and can be clamped on to a table, or may be placed across a chair, when the worker holds it down by sitting on the end of the board. It should be so arranged that it projects out and the peel drops into a bucket on the floor. The fork which impales the apple is rotated with one hand via a crank handle and belt drive, leaving the other hand free to operate the entirely separate cutter, which is rather like a safety razor blade, fitted into a wooden handle.—EDWARD PINTO, *Oxhey Woods House, Northwood, Middlesex.*

CRISPIN AND CRISPIANUS

SIR,—I have had several interesting replies to my enquiry about the 17th-century silver-mounted coconut cup, engraved on the rim "William Boteler at the Crispin and Crispianus over and against St. Andrew's Church, 1662," and should like to thank you for inserting my letter in your issue of January 19. I think it may be of interest to your readers if I summarise the replies that I have had.

Mr. Frederick Ward, of Old Cleeve, Somerset, wrote that William Boteler built a St. Andrew's church in Old Cleeve in the year 1624, but that there was no trace of Crispin and Crispianus. Mrs. A. R. W. Low and Major A. H. Reed told me that Crispin and Crispianus were Christian martyrs who suffered death at Soissons in 287. Mr. Freeston, of Blisworth, told me that they were shoe-makers and are Northampton's patron saints of the shoe trade.

Both in Northampton and at Strood in Kent there are Crispin and Crispianus inn signs. At Northampton there is a St. Andrew's church, and there was a Priory of St. Andrew. Rochester Cathedral is within a mile of the inn at Strood and is dedicated to St. Andrew.—G. C. HANS HAMILTON (Lt.-Comdr.), *Victoria House,* 117, *Victoria-street,* S.W.1.

CARVINGS AT UGGESHALL CHURCH, SUFFOLK

See letter: Masons' Marks

LETTERS IN BRIEF

Chestnuts for Tits.—A few years ago I found that peanuts were unobtainable and coconuts also were scarce. Since that time I have fed raw chestnuts to generations of blue tits, which seem to thrive on them. The skins are removed and the nuts cut into small pieces, which are dropped into small flower-pots suspended by wire from suitable places.—F. W. TURNER, 6, *Clifton-road, Crouch End, N.8.*

Colonel Burnaby.—I am working on a biography of Frederick Gustavus Burnaby (1842-1885), author of *A Ride to Khiva* and Colonel of the Royal Horse Guards (Blues), and am having difficulty in locating the main collection of letters, etc., which I feel must be in the possession of a member of the family. Can any of your readers help?—MICHAEL ALEXANDER, 40, *Harrington-road,* S.W.7.

Convict Artist.—I should be grateful if any of your readers could give me any information about portraits painted by W. B. Gould. This artist was transported to Australia in 1827, and it is believed that while he was there he painted Naval and Army officers and their wives, and that some of these portraits found their way back to this country.—MARGARET FRANKLIN (Miss), 68, *Guilford-street,* W.C.1.

On the Dart.—The de Wint collection at the Usher Art Gallery, Lincoln, contains the study for the picture *On the Dart,* to which an enquirer referred in your issue of February 9. It is illustrated in our catalogue of this collection and shows that in working the subject up de Wint kept very close to his study. This latter is in bluish-grey wash; it measures 12 ins. by 7¾ ins.—FRANCIS J. COOPER, Director, *Usher Art Gallery, Lincoln.*

Pictures in Bread.—On reading the article *Pictures in Bread* (February 9) by Phyllis Buchanan, and particularly the closing sentence, I remembered an incident in George Eliot's *Middlemarch* (1871-72). In chapter xl Ben says to Mary "Make me a peacock with this breadcrumb." He had been kneading a small mass for the purpose." Would not this point to a fairly common knowledge of using this material for the purpose? I note that Katherine Sharpe was born in 1851, George Eliot was born in 1819 and died in 1880.—MARJORIE WRAY, 13, *Whitchurch gardens, Edgware, Middlesex.*

CARS DESCRIBED

THE LAGONDA CONVERTIBLE

By J. EASON GIBSON

IN these days, when mass-production methods are spreading ever wider, it is refreshing to report on a car with a decided character of its own. I have tested the latest Lagonda, which is available in both four-door saloon and two-door convertible form. Being a sister car to the Aston Martin, which is also built by the David Brown Group, it has certain similarities in the specification—principally in the engine and gearbox—but one of the most interesting features of the car is the manner in which certain sports-car characteristics have been combined with those more generally found in the more expensive town models.

The 3-litre six-cylinder engine, fitted with twin overhead camshafts, has a compression ratio of 8.2 to 1, and a total power of 140 b.h.p. is extracted from the engine at an engine speed of 5,000 r.p.m. There are twin S.U. carburettors, and incorporated in the lubrication system is a full-flow oil filter. The engine, which is of basically similar design to that successfully raced in the DB3S Aston Martins, is now well known for smoothness and reliability. Contributing to these qualities are the remarkably rigid crank-case construction and the large crankshaft. The finish of the engine is very good, and will no doubt assist in creating pride of ownership. Not so commendable is the placing and length of the oil dipstick, which is too short and has its handle dangerously close to the heated exhaust manifold. The engine compartment is well filled, with two batteries, heating and demisting unit and the tank for the windscreen washer. A lamp is fitted beneath the bonnet, which lights automatically when the bonnet is opened.

The Lagonda is unusual in having a chassis of cruciform construction, and independent suspension for all wheels. Front suspension is by means of wishbones and coil springs, and rear suspension is by torsion bars, which lie parallel to the rear arms of the cross and are connected to the wheels by triangulated links. Another unusual feature is that the rear brakes operate on the rear half-axles and are carried inboard, on either side of the differential housing instead of next to the wheels, which gives the benefit of reduced unsprung weight. The foot brake is servo-assisted, and the brake drums are large enough to give a friction-lining area of 122 square ins./ton, which suggests that the brakes should be free from fading, even under the most severe conditions. The car can be had with either a central or a steering-column gear lever; the model I tested was fitted with what I consider the better—a good, rigid central lever. This offered little obstruction to the driver on entering or leaving the car by the nearside door. The fuel tank carries 19 gallons and a reserve supply of 3½ gallons can be switched on at the dashboard switch. An in-built hydraulic jacking system is fitted, with controlling valves which enable the front, the rear, or all wheels to be raised.

The folding head of the convertible body can be set in three alternative positions: fully open, fully closed, or in the intermediate *coupé de ville* position. The internal finish is very good, both the fascia and the door cappings being of highly polished wood, and the upholstery of fine hide. The pedals are set slightly to the left of the normal position, but only a few moments are required for one to become accustomed to this. The instrument dials are grouped in front of the driver, but the minor controls are rather spread out. It seems rather out of character that the hand-brake lever should be of the common type, tucked beneath the instrument board, and very awkward to hold if one is edging the car forward on a hill. In addition to the normal fore-and-aft seat adjustment, the rake of the seat squab can be modified. The steering column has a telescopic adjustment, so that drivers of any size can find the most comfortable position. The front seats are of bucket type, but the passenger seat is almost too large and comfortable, as fast cornering tends to throw the passenger about. The addition of folding armrests to the front passenger's seat would obviate this trouble.

The Lagonda's combination of luxury and efficiency is clear as soon as the engine is started; there is none of the sponginess so often felt on production engines, but a feeling of firm responsiveness, reminiscent of a sports/racing car. It is a peculiarity of the engine that it requires considerable running before it is warmed sufficiently to run evenly, for up to about four miles it is necessary to open the throttle with some care, to prevent the engine's spitting back and attempting to choke. The Lagonda comes truly into its own once the open road is reached, and the enthusiastic driver's pleasure in the car is increased considerably by the well chosen gear ratios, which allow the two middle ratios to provide speeds of 45 and 70 m.p.h. respectively, without in any way straining the engine. The theoretical safe cruising speed is 75 m.p.h., but I found in practice that the car seemed every bit as happy when the speed was maintained at above 80 m.p.h. for long stretches. The well-chosen gear ratios and the precise central gear lever allow full and proper use to be made of the gearbox; third gear can be used on leaving a restricted area, and the car can be quickly accelerated up to around 60 m.p.h. before one changes into top gear. This statement must not be taken to suggest that the gearbox must be used to excess. It is, in fact, surprising how well the car accelerates from comparatively low speeds on top gear alone.

The suspension is rather firmer that one might expect on a car with the appearance, and so many of the features, of being designed primarily for comfort, but it is none the worse for that. The suspension, which allows rough surfaces to be felt at low speeds, irons out all up and down movements at normal road speeds and upwards, while allowing high speeds to be maintained on corners without roll. Despite the soft top of the convertible bodywork, wind roar never becomes irritating and, although the engine can be heard, its mechanical smoothness is so good that one becomes convinced that the car can be driven as hard as road and traffic conditions will allow. Perhaps because of its relationship to the sporting Aston Martin, there are one or two unusual features on the car. For example, although the brakes are servo-assisted, which usually has the effect of reducing pedal pressure considerably, the use of strong return springs on the pedal tends to cancel out the lightness of operation that one might expect. This is a point that will not worry enthusiastic motorists, most of whom prefer to have a close relation between the physical effort applied and the braking effect obtained.

The manner in which the car satisfies the differing tastes, both of comfort-loving passengers and of an enthusiastic driver, is unusual. On fast main roads the passengers will be most conscious of the comfort and luxury of the car, while at the same time the driver—without in any way disturbing the passengers—can be taking full advantage of the precise gear change, the sensitive steering and the stability on corners. After dark the car is every bit as enjoyable. The headlights give a long beam, which enables the normal cruising speed to be maintained at night, and the instrument lighting is effectively shielded against reflecting in the windscreen. A well-placed map light, which cannot possibly distract the driver, is a great help.

While the Lagonda is a genuine 100-m.p.h. car, its greatest attraction lies in the manner in which it can be cruised at around 80 m.p.h., and the way in which, after a check, it can be accelerated back to its natural gait. A small feature of interest to lady passengers is the provision of a cigarette case, which is attached to the inside of the cubby-hole lid, and which opens to display a mirror—certainly more convenient than mirrors fitted on the reverse side of a sun vizor. In addition to the heating and demisting system, which can be used in hot weather to circulate cool air, there are two direct entrances for cold air, fitted low down near the toeboard.

Perhaps the best short summary of the Lagonda is that it is not intended for the motorist who requires only comfort and performance, but rather for the motorist whose family require these qualities, but who himself wants something which is a constant pleasure to drive for driving's sake. Because of the fact that the engine and gearbox are similar to those used in the Aston Martin, from which a much higher performance is extracted, there is little doubt that reliability can be taken for granted. The Lagonda is unusual in being one of the few cars on which the doors are hinged at the rear. If one ignores possible disadvantages, this does allow the windscreen pillars to be slimmer, and so gives better vision.

THE LAGONDA CONVERTIBLE. Its good looks are largely due to the lack of ornament

THE LAGONDA CONVERTIBLE

Makers: Lagonda, Feltham, Middlesex

SPECIFICATION

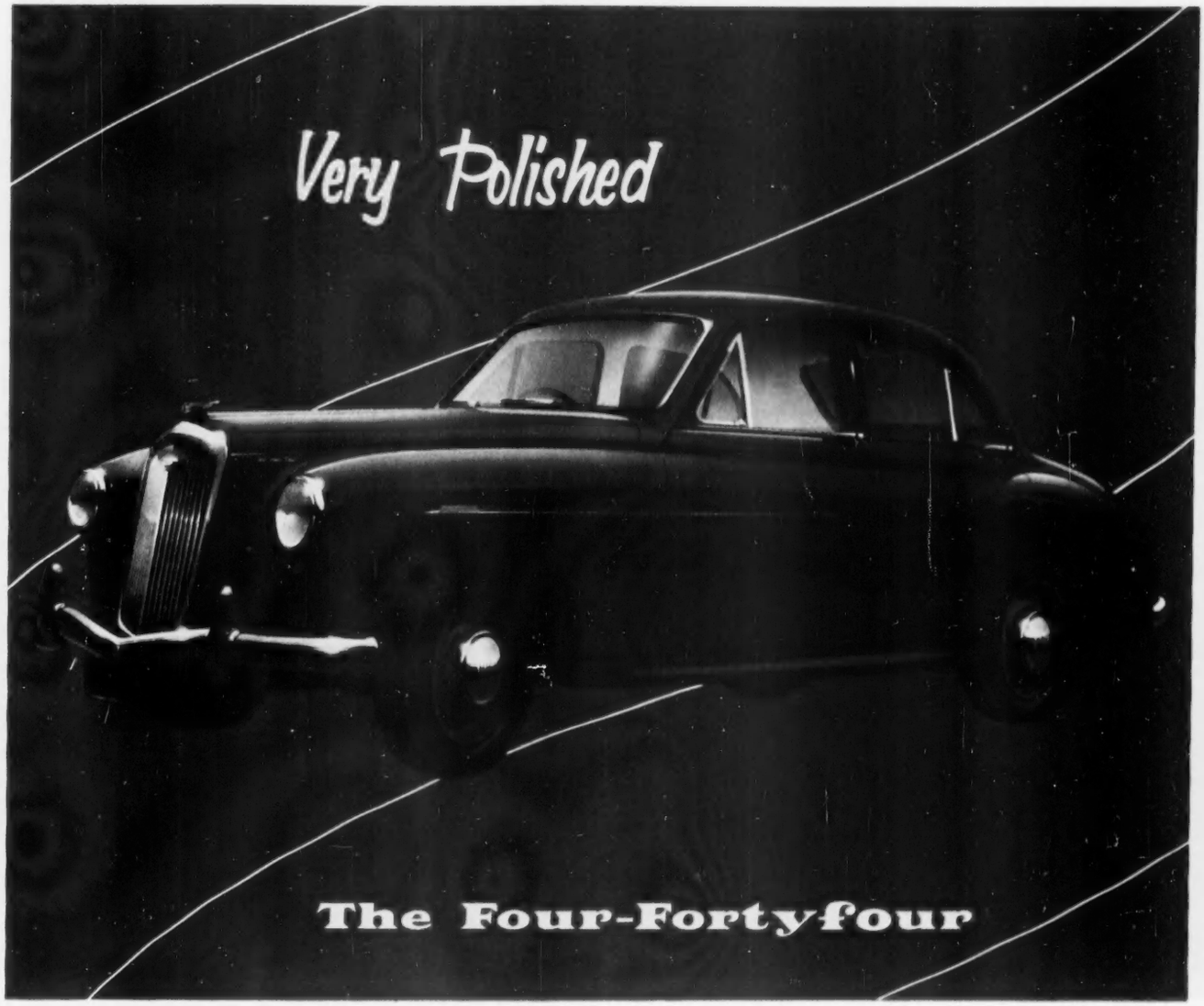
Price	£4,051 7s.
(including P.T. £1,351 7s.)	
Cubic capacity	2,992 c.c.
Bore and stroke	83 x 90 mm.
Cylinders	Six
Valves	Overhead
B.H.P.	140 at 5,000 r.p.m.
Carb.	Twin S.U.
Ignition	Lucas coil
Oil filter	Purolator full-flow
1st gear	13.30 to 1
2nd gear	9.02 to 1
3rd gear	6.06 to 1
4th gear	4.56 to 1
Final drive	Hypoid bevel
Brakes	Lockheed hydraulic (servo assisted)
Suspension	Independent all round
Wheelbase	9 ft. 5½ ins.
Track (front)	4 ft. 8¾ ins.
Track (rear)	4 ft. 8¾ ins.
Overall length	16 ft. 4 ins.
Overall width	5 ft. 9½ ins.
Overall height	5 ft. 2 ins.
Ground clearance	7 ins.
Turning circle	38 ft.
Weight	33 cwt.
Fuel cap.	19 galls.
Oil cap.	15 pints
Water cap.	24 pints
Tyres	6.00 x 16

PERFORMANCE

Acceleration	secs.	secs.
30-50	Top 10.7	3rd 8.0
40-60	Top 11.0	3rd 8.0
0-60 (all gears)	15.2 secs.	

Max. speed 99.6 m.p.h.
Petrol consumption 18 m.p.g. at 45 m.p.h.
Theoretical cruising speed 75 m.p.h.

BRAKES 30-0 in 35 feet (86 per cent. efficiency)



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DAVID BROWN LAGONDA

A CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE

MASQUERADE

By M. HARRISON-GRAY

THE tournament expert tends to go from one extreme to another. In olden days the presence of two opponents barely entered into his calculations; nowadays attempts to bedevil them amount almost to an obsession. Below are some samples from matches at international level. At one time we might have gasped at their audacity; to-day they are quite commonplace.

♠ K ♡ J 10 8 7 6 4 3 ◇ 7 4 2 ♣ K 8

North's hand. Dealer, South. East-West vulnerable.

The full deal was given last week. South opened One Club, West doubled and North bid *Four Hearts*.

♠ K J ♡ 9 7 6 5 3 ◇ J 6 4 3 ♣ 10 2

West's hand. Dealer, East. Neither side vulnerable.

East passed, South opened One Club, and West *doubled*.

♠ Q 7 5 2 ♡ 9 7 2 ◇ 5 ♣ 9 8 7 4 3

South's hand. Dealer, West. Neither side vulnerable.

West opened One Club, North passed, East bid One Diamond, and South bid *One Heart*.

In each case the perpetrator risked a disproportionate penalty for the sake of cramping the opponents' bidding space or throwing a little dust in their eyes. Consider, also, the opening bid on a balanced Yarborough, and the more familiar gambits such as the Weak Three and Weak Two. "Bids on nothing" were developed by the Americans, who had a long start on the rest of us in duplicate play; for the most part they rely on the peculiar immunity conferred by match points scoring, but the cult is fast spreading to rubber bridge circles.

The American masters have long been wedded to another defensive weapon, the weak jump overcall, which has always struck me as singularly puerile. To my mind one cannot dispense with the normal strength-showing jump overcall, one of the most valuable bids in the game when used in a rational manner. With far too many players it becomes an idle bid, reserved for hands of virtually game-going strength, and tragedies such as the following continue to pile up.

North: ♠ 5 ♡ Q 10 9 6 3 ◇ 7 6 3 2 ♣ A 4 2

West: ♠ Q 9 4 2 ♡ J 8 7 2 ◇ K ♣ Q 9 6 5

East: ♠ 10 7 ♡ A K 5 4 ◇ A Q 9 8 ♣ J 8 7

South: ♠ A K J 8 6 3 ♡ ... ◇ J 10 5 4 ♣ K 10 3

Dealer, West. Both sides vulnerable.

Bidding:

West	*North*	*East*	*South*
No bid	No bid	1 Heart	1 Spade
2 Hearts	No bid	No bid	2 Spades
No bid	No bid	3 Hearts	3 Spades
Double	No bid	No bid	No bid

This cost **800** (at rubber bridge). Is it not more sensible to get the hand off South's chest with an immediate bid of Two Spades? West cannot double at this stage; he passes or bids Three Hearts, which North can double for a penalty of at least **500**. The proper function of the jump overcall is merely to signal a hand distinctly stronger than the example below, which justifies a simple One Spade overcall:

♠ A K J 8 6 ♡ 6 3 ◇ 10 5 4 ♣ K 10 3

Here there are eight losers; the actual South hand has six. Its holder maintained that he could show its character only by bidding as he did, and the alternative treatment did not occur to any of those present. The weak jump overcall is a natural corollary. If there is no place for a "strong" Two Spades over One Heart, runs the argument, why not increase the frequency by playing Two Spades as a "weak" bid? And the Americans can see another reason for persisting in the use of an inferior weapon.

Let us study a case from last year's world championship match in New York, where a British player held these cards:

♠ 9 ♡ K Q 10 6 ◇ 9 7 6 ♣ A 10 6 4 2

South's hand. Dealer, North. Both sides vulnerable.

North opened One Club, East bid Two Diamonds (a weak jump overcall by previous announcement) and South's bid of Three Clubs closed the auction.

The deal was analysed at length in the American *Bridge World*. The Editor, Alphonse Moyse, Jr., was roundly accused of being an Anglophile, so great was his admiration of the British style of bidding, but he really let his hair down over South's failure to bid Two Hearts. "If we take the view," he said, "that South can't safely mention Hearts at the Two level, we are paying homage to the pre-emptive value of the Two Diamond overcall—and please include me out of any such proposition! If *Two Diamonds* can be effective in this spot, it is high time for a general overhauling of our bidding notions. I, for one, refuse to admit that there is no way over or around such lilliputian obstacles. A 'Two Diamond pre-emptive' is a contradiction in terms; a mouse masquerading as a tiger."

The scene now shifts to our Master's Pairs championship, which took place last month, and we begin to see what Moyse had in mind.

♠ A J 6 5 ♡ 9 8 6 ◇ K 5 4 ♣ 10 7 6

South's hand. Dealer, East. East-West vulnerable.

At several tables there were three passes up to North, who opened One Club; East then bid Two Diamonds, equivalent to a weak jump overcall after his original pass. The usual result was that South passed, West passed and North re-opened with a double which steered his side into Four Spades or Three No-Trumps.

Browsing through a new American book, *The Bridge Player's Bedside Companion* (an English edition of this outstanding work is in course of preparation), I came across a section devoted to a hardy annual—"What makes an expert?" Here is one opinion which seems to hit this elusive nail on the head:

"His skill is based on conscious and subconscious knowledge of thousands of hands and psychological situations. Having the backing of experience he knows when to violate theory. He will make all sorts of bids and moves which may be decried in books but are perfectly logical for the situations in which he uses them."

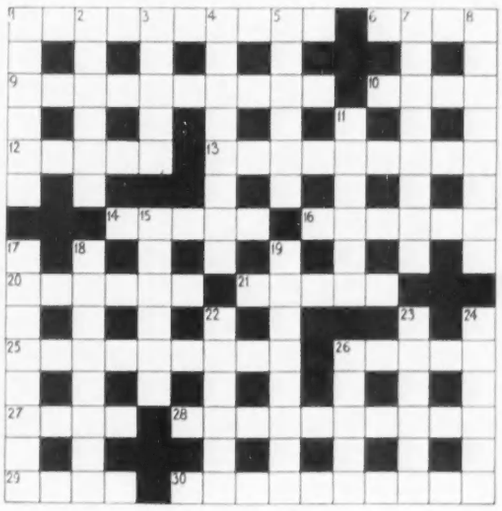
Now it so happened that at one table in the Masters' Pairs South was the same player who had been castigated for his failure to bid Two Hearts over Two Diamonds on the New York hand. Whether he thought, consciously or subconsciously, of the "mouse masquerading as a tiger," we do not know; the fact remains that he made a move which would be decried in any book that has ever been written on the game. Yes; over the Two Diamonds on his right, South came forth with a bid of Two Spades and eventually played in a contract of Six Spades which was made for a cold top on the board.

I am not asserting that South's call is one hundred per cent. sound, but it gives one food for thought. Why do the Americans show such faith in their mousey jump overcalls? Because they rely on another theory, typically transatlantic but favoured by quite a few experts in this country, which is carried to the point of absurdity—*the theory of the strong free bid*.

This is where the expert shows his inconsistency; he will go to any lengths in harrying his opponents and expects them to do the same but is too lazy to reorganise his defences. I shall carry on next week with a theme which strikes me as highly important and was inspired by a query from a regular reader: "At what strength should responder enter the bidding to contest a score by the opponents?" It may well be high time, as *The Bridge World* suggests, to revise some of our bidding notions. To every poison there is an antidote.

CROSSWORD No. 1361

COUNTRY LIFE books to the value of 3 guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 1361, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than ***the first post on the morning of Wednesday, March 14, 1956***.



Name.....
(MR., MRS., ETC.)
Address.....

ACROSS

1. Beauty from a London borough (10)
6. "'Tis a naughty night to —— in" —*Shakespeare* (4)
9. How Ivy supports herself (10)
10. "We in the —— lying, . . . "Built Nineveh with our sighing" —*O'Shaughnessy* (4)
12. Presages (5)
13. Winged winter visitor (9)
14. Saltwater creature nearly all freshwater (5)
16. "And the youngest he was Little ——" —*Thackeray* (6)
20. This is 18 in Russia (6)
21. Even our mother in a fifty fifty way (5)
25. Landrail (9)
26. Just an old wallet (5)
27. Fish or flower (4)
28. Orlando was one in Act I (10)
29. Flour from the bean (4)
30. Winged resident—*alias* a poem by Wordsworth (10)

DOWN

1. Spring visitor (6)
2. "In —— meditation, fancy-free." —*Shakespeare* (6)
3. A cube has a dozen (5)
4. Lucky apple (8)
5. "She had three —— in her hand "And the stars in her hair were seven" —*Rossetti* (6)
7. They may be white, grey, yellow or pied (8)
8. Learned but not from schoolmistresses—apparently (8)
11. Mr. Punch's was "don't" (6)
15. She is more than just a souvenir (6)
17. Tom had them when he was naughty (8)
18. Period of validity (8)
19. Revile the French? Wake up! (8)
22. "But no more like my —— than I to Hercules" —*Shakespeare* (6)
23. Replaced by the unicorn (6)
24. Preach for a Greek bishop? (6)
26. Bundle (5)

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.

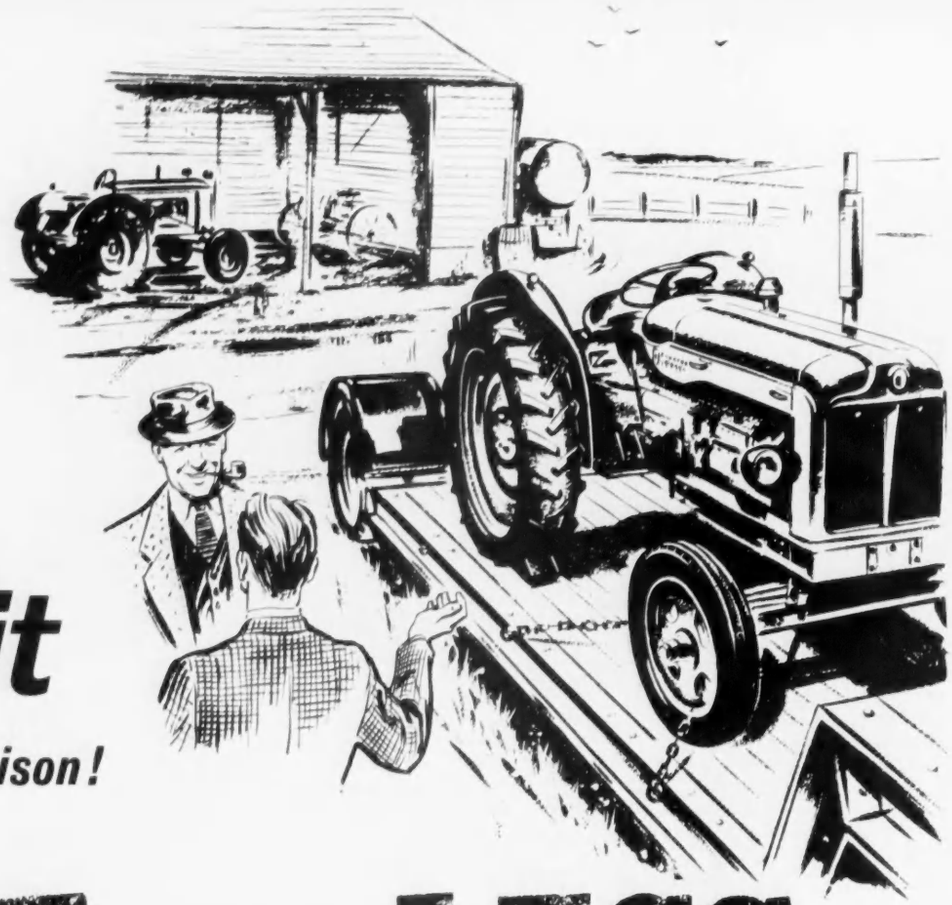
SOLUTION TO No. 1360 *The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of March 1, will be announced next week.*

ACROSS.—3, Garth; 8, Amass; 9, Elixir; 10, Unfamiliar; 11, Hose; 12, Settling; 14, Nettle; 16, Flowers of speech; 18, Stones; 20, Fruitful; 23, Lair; 24, Delectable; 26, Deepen; 27, Island; 28, Towel.

DOWN.—1, Fringe; 2, Puma; 3, Gemini; 4, Robin Goodfellow; 5, Herrings; 6, High Street; 7, Tinsel; 12, Sifts; 13, Towing rope; 15, Ethel; 17, Resident; 19, Trader; 21, Unreal; 22, Upland; 25, Ally.

The winner of Crossword No. 1359 is

Mr. D. H. W. Thomson,
Home Close,
Tinacre Hill,
Wightwick,
Wolverhampton.



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FARMING NOTES

QUALITY MILK

DAIRYMEN tell me that they cannot get enough Channel Islands milk to meet their customers' requirements, although a higher price is charged. Housewives will pay a higher price for milk that has a rich look with a good cream line on the bottle; the fat globules are big and rise to the top. The milk from South Devon cows as well as Guernseys and Jerseys comes into this category. Milk from Shorthorns, Ayrshires and Red Polls may have almost as high a fat content, ranging round 4 per cent., but such milk does not earn any quality premium. Now the breed societies concerned have urged the Minister of Agriculture and the Milk Marketing Board to review afresh the desirability of applying price differentials beyond the category of Channel Islands milk. It will be interesting to see how far they get with this proposal. It is the accepted practice in New Zealand to pay for milk on the butter-fat content. This is straight-forward because nearly all the milk produced there is used for making butter or cheese and obviously the milk with a higher content of fat and other solids has a higher value for manufacturing these products. In some countries in Europe milk is standardised to 3 per cent. butter-fat or a little more and the surplus is removed to make butter. In Britain the consumer should receive milk of the quality which the cow gives and apart from the Channel Islands category the same price is paid for the milk whether it has 3 per cent. butter-fat, 3·5 or 4 per cent.

Winter Toll

HARD weather for the month of February with the land more or less continuously in the grip of frost killed off almost all green-stuff, and the good hay and silage we saved last summer has been a boon. Cattle and sheep have been hungry and they have cleared up readily all they have been given. There has been some wastage in the potato clamps that remain, particularly where they were not sheltered from the freezing wind. The autumn sown corn took a bad knock and the colour of some fields, turning a sickly yellow, makes it certain that there must be a good deal of re-sowing. Many farmers were pleased to have got so much wheat-sowing behind them in the autumn. Now it is touch and go whether they have at least as much to do this spring as they did a year ago when little autumn corn had been sown. In some seasons we can get a good start with the spring sowing by mid-February. Not so in 1956. But there is the consoling hope that if March gives a dry time the ploughed ground should after the frost work down readily to a fine tilth.

Silage in Wafts

IN the country just now any nose that is fairly sensitive records wafts of different odours from the silage pits and clamps by the roadside. They are being drawn on for the dairy cows, and if smell is any criterion there is some rich stuff being fed. The best value can be in silage made from lucerne, or a mixture of lucerne and grasses. A companion species is often included when a lucerne ley is made so as to keep down weeds that are liable to intrude and provide longer grazing than lucerne alone will give. Timothy generally does well with lucerne. Cocksfoot is liable to come too dominant in the sward and stifle the lucerne. How good lucerne silage can be I know from the way in which the milk yields shot up a fortnight ago when the cows went on to a clamp of silage from a lucerne ley that was saved in just the right condition. There is no food that suits milking cows better at this time of year than well-made silage. Some people do not like the smell of it, but it is sound stuff reckoned by either cost or effect.

Potato Supplies

MUCH as we dislike the idea of importing main crop potatoes from the Continent, there has been no alternative this winter to make up the short home crop and to meet at all adequately consumers' demands until new potatoes come on the market in May and June. The shortage of the home crop, due to last summer's drought, is said to be 300,000 tons, and if supplies can be brought across the Channel from France and Belgium as well as Holland they will have to come, provided that every care is taken to ensure that no disease of any kind is brought with them. The French Ministry of Agriculture has given an undertaking that there will be a careful inspection at the point of loading, which ought to ensure that only sound potatoes are sent here without risk of introducing troubles like Colorado beetle and the various rots that afflict potatoes in store. Despite the present necessity to import potatoes from the Continent it is, I am assured, the policy of the Government to encourage farmers here to provide all the main crop potatoes for the British market, and this can readily be done in a normal season.

Slaughter-houses

LOCAL authorities and particularly the urban and rural district councils are now being consulted by the Ministry of Agriculture about the provision of more up-to-date slaughter-houses to serve local needs. There were about 12,000 slaughter-houses licensed before the war. Under the Ministry of Food control in the war years and afterwards 400 slaughter-houses sufficed. Since then about 4,000 of the old slaughter-houses have been re-opened as a temporary measure while the Government and others concerned decided a permanent policy. Now it seems the Government will be content to insist on proper standards of hygiene and construction and for a time it will be left open to anyone—local authority, butchers' association, the Fat Stock Marketing Corporation or an individual—to erect a new slaughter-house or modernise an old one provided it satisfies the Ministry's rules. Then there will be a review to see how far developments have gone and where it will be necessary for a public authority to step in and provide a slaughter-house to serve an area where the facilities are inadequate. The policy of "moderate concentration" at the dictation of a central authority, which was proposed before, has now gone—and probably rightly.

Recording Movements

HOW many of us have ever heard of the Movement of Animals (Records) Order 1925 and know what it requires of us? I suspect that a good many of us systematically break the law by failing to keep the records that this order requires. You are breaking the law unless you keep a record, on a prescribed form, of the movement on to or off your premises of any cattle, sheep, goats or pigs. The record must include the date of the movement, the numbers and character of the animals moved, the premises from which they were moved, the name and address of the person from whom delivery was taken, the premises to which the animals were moved and the name of the person taking delivery. Entries in the record must be made within thirty-six hours after the movement, and you must retain the record for a period of twelve months. Failure to keep accurate and complete records might have serious consequences in the event of outbreaks of an epidemic and would render one liable to prosecution. You have been warned!

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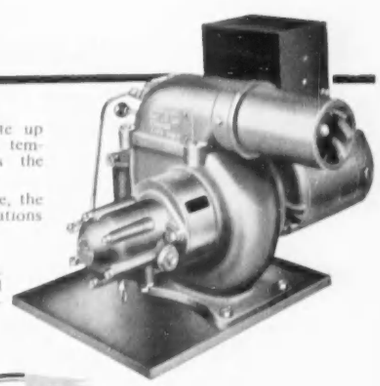

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THE ESTATE MARKET

RATING RUMPUS

IT was inevitable that the new valuation lists for rating that come into force at the beginning of next month should have created something of a rumpus, for one of their effects is to transfer a substantial portion of the total rates levied in England and Wales from private householders to occupiers of business premises. In fact this shifting of the incidence of rates is not as unreasonable as it might seem at first sight, for, although business premises are assessed at current rental values instead of those that ruled in 1934, and whereas the assessment of private property is based on 1939 values instead of those of 1934, a vast number of private houses have been subject to rent restriction since 1939 and it was clearly unreasonable for owners to continue to pay rates on the basis that they could charge whatever rent they could get for their property. Nevertheless, the fact remains that owners of business premises feel that an injustice has been done and they have not been slow to voice their indignation.

SHOPKEEPERS' FEARS

AN example of the importance that owners of business premises attach to the shifting of the rate burden was given the other day when the president of the National Union of Small Shopkeepers addressed a crowded meeting at Coventry. In his opinion the new valuations will mean scores of bankruptcies among the country's 150,000 small shopkeepers, many of whom, he said, are getting out of business as quickly as possible. He went on to say that his Union have engaged the services of a firm of rating and valuation experts who had agreed to conduct "block appeals" against the revaluation proposals at reduced fees. Occupiers of schools, offices, hotels and cinemas are others who are complaining bitterly about the extra burden that they have been asked to carry, and there is no doubt that many small sea-side hotels and boarding-houses will be hard put to it to carry on unless they can get their assessments revised.

HOUSEHOLDERS COMPLAIN

COMPLAINTS about the new assessments are not confined to the owners of business premises, for, although private householders stand to benefit as a class, the gains are not distributed equally among them, and some who have studied the assessments of private property in their district have found to their dismay that, unless there is a phenomenal reduction in the rate in the £ levied by their local council, they will, in fact, have to pay more. In their case, increased assessments are probably accounted for by the fact that their property was under-assessed in 1934 and has now been brought into line with comparable properties, not only in their own rating area, but elsewhere in the kingdom. Indeed, uniformity of rates was the prime object of the Local Government Act of 1948, and it was with a view to achieving as high a degree of equality as possible that the Government of the time took the work out of the hands of local authorities and vested it in the Inland Revenue.

COMFORTING NEWS

ONE does not know as yet the difference in terms of rate demands that the new assessments will make to property-owners. The total rateable value for England and Wales has risen from £361,818,059 to £622,947,351, an overall increase of 72 per cent since April 1 of last year. But some counties and boroughs show larger increases than others, and their needs are often very different. Nevertheless, judging from the statements of a number of responsible officials, and from a few scattered rating decisions that have been published in the newspapers, it seems that local authorities have taken heed of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's appeal to go slow on projects that are not essential, and it was comforting to read that the chairman of the Rating and Valuation Committee of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, forecast a rate very much below the £1 5s. 10d. levied last year, and to find the county councils of Hertfordshire, Northamptonshire and Rutland prescribing rates of 12s. 6d., 10s. 9d. and 13s. 6d. in the £, the decreases being 5s. 11d., 3s. 11d. and 4s. 6d. respectively.

STRATFORD HOUSE SOLD

STRATFORD HOUSE, a notable example of the Adam style of architecture, that adjoins Oxford-street, W.1, and that will be familiar to many readers as the home of the Hutchinson collection of sporting pictures, has been acquired by Birfield Industries, a concern connected with the manufacture of motor components and other engineering supplies, through Messrs. Ralph Pay and Taylor. The price paid for the building is not disclosed, but it is believed that the late Walter Hutchinson gave approximately £300,000 when he bought it in 1946. The vendors were the London Investment and Mortgage Company, for whom Messrs. Collins and Collins and Rawlence and Squarey acted.

COMMISSIONERS BUY

THE Church Commissioners, who come high on the list of great landowners, have added the Alston estate, near Preston, Lancashire, to their holdings of agricultural land. The property, which covers 1,223 acres and includes 12 dairy farms, a smallholding and 130 acres of woodland, was sold privately by Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. and Mr. Norman Weights. It will be managed by Major R. Brett, of the Earl of Derby's Longridge estate office.

Another substantial agricultural property that has changed hands privately is the Bishop Norton estate, which covers just over 1,600 acres, 11 miles from Lincoln. Roughly half of the estate was offered with possession, but the new owner was not anxious to farm the land, and Messrs. Strutt and Parker, Lofts and Warner, who sold him the property, have found him a tenant for a portion of the property.

LORD HINCHINGBROOKE BUYS DORSET ESTATE

VISCOUNT HINCHINGBROOKE, M.P. for South Dorset, in association with the Earl of Sandwich's Bolton Estates, has bought the Mapperton Estate of 768 acres, near Beaminster, Dorset. Mapperton, a medium-sized manor house dating partly from Tudor and partly from Jacobean times, with exceptional topiary gardens, was sold privately by Messrs. Rawlence and Squarey's Sherborne office, who obtained £7,000 for the contents of the house at auction.

DEATH DUTIES SALE

THE executors of the late Lord Courthope have decided that the greater part of his Sussex estate which is situated at Whligh on the Tunbridge Wells-Hastings road will have to be sold in order to raise money with which to pay death duties, and Messrs. R. H. and R. W. Clutton have been instructed to offer approximately 1,400 acres, which Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley will submit to auction in late spring. The area to be sold consists of 11 dairy and mixed holdings, including 50 acres of hops, situated in two main blocks near Wadhurst and Stonegate respectively, but Lord Courthope's family will keep Whligh House, together with the park and home farm. Lord Courthope was well known for his lifelong interest in agriculture and forestry. He was a Forestry Commissioner for many years, and was also first Master of the Farmers' Company. PROCURATOR.

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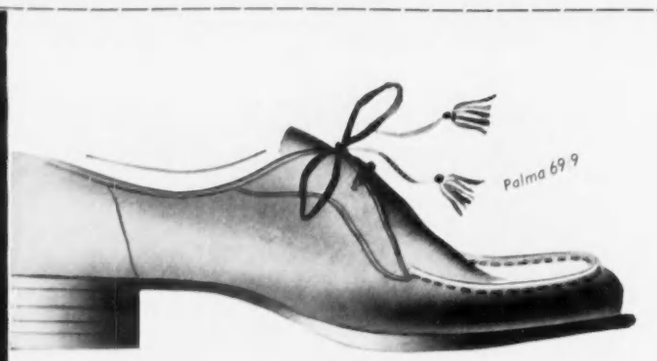

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Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

CONSTANTIN DE GRUNWALD'S *Peter the Great* (MacGibbon and Kee, 21s.) is translated from the French by Viola Garvin. It is amusing, and also instructive, to compare the way in which the wife of a Russian Emperor was chosen and the way in which, at such a court, say, as that of Louis XIV, the business was undertaken. It was indeed, a *business* at most western courts. There was the case of La Grande Mademoiselle who was told by Louis, when she raised with him the question of her marriage, that it would be arranged when it was most advantageous to the Court to do so. "A future Tsaritsa," says Mr. de Grunwald, "was chosen by a process of weeding out hundreds of beauties who came to the palace in small groups, and week after week filed past the eyes of the monarch, their relatives, intimate courtiers, and even doctors." The choice might fall on someone of no social distinction. "One of the future Tsaritsas used to go out, unattended, as a girl, to pick mushrooms in the wood and sell them afterwards in the market, while another, when she was young, used to tramp the countryside in birch-bark sandals: that was Peter the Great's own mother." She was her husband's second wife: "a tall young girl with great black eyes, long lashes, and a bearing as gracious as it was modest." These marriages into good-looking stock rather than into great wealth were not necessarily more successful than the others. Of this Naryshkin family that produced Peter's mother Mr. de Grunwald says: "In the course of the generations to come it transpired that this race had no breadth of mind. Having given Russia the mother of Peter the Great, it afterwards produced elegant and expensive courtiers, but not a single great statesman or captain of war."

PETER THE GREAT. *By Constantin de Grunwald*
(MacGibbon and Kee, 21s.)

THE HELFORD RIVER. *By C. C. Vyvyan*
(Peter Owen, 16s.)

ONE WOMAN'S MOROCCO. *By Marvine Howe*
(Arthur Barker, 21s.)

A TERRIFYING GIANT

However, to have produced so notable a phenomenon might be considered enough by some families, and too much by others. Everything about Peter was outsize. He was six foot eight inches tall, thin, and at times of a terrifying aspect—"shaken by convulsions: a sort of twitch disfigured his features and gave him a distraught and terrible expression." His ambitions and achievements were alike prodigious: where other men would build a house he built a city; where other men might have striven to make a window on the west, he was satisfied with nothing less than the west wide open.

He was as prodigious in debauch and blasphemy as in everything else. He parodied his own temporal power as well as the spiritual power of the clergy by actions of the grossest *braggadocio*. The Prince Romodanovsky was created Prince Caesar, and "perched on a gim-crack throne presided at official ceremonies of the highest importance, such as the march-past of victorious troops, when the real Tsar, Peter, was lost in the ranks of the soldiers." Then there was the Prince-Pope with a college of "cardinals" chosen from among buffoons, gluttons and drunkards. Peter himself was a "proto-deacon" of this gang. They would parade the streets of Moscow, "the Prince-Pope seated in an open sleigh, drawn by twelve bald men. He wore a mitre and a cassock embroidered with playing cards; he was perched on a barrel with a bottle in his hand, like Bacchus. The 'Cardinals' followed, mounted on oxen, while other 'dignitaries' brought up the rear in sleighs drawn by pigs, bears or dogs."

CRUSHING THE PEASANTS

Let us allow for the strength of Peter's passion for renovation, his dislike of ancestor-worship. Nevertheless, reform need not be accompanied by so blatant an assault on the common feelings. Despite it all, Mr. de Grunwald writes Peter down as "a convinced Christian," but that obviously must remain a matter of opinion. If Christianity is concerned, to even a small extent, with care for the poor and needy, Peter gave a remarkably small display of his belief. His wars and his buildings demanded money, money, money, and "the fiscal burden fell almost entirely on the working classes: the peasantry was crushed." Statistics prepared at that time, and since "meticulously checked by researchers, are there to prove that in Peter's reign the rural population diminished by a fifth, and in certain provinces even by a third: a terrible price paid by the nation for her future greatness."

An odd feature of the ganging giant's make-up was his love of being present in the torture chamber, even when his own son was being tortured. Or is love too strong a word? "Was the sovereign's presence in so evil a place really necessary?" Mr. Grunwald asks. "Peter seems sincerely to have thought it was. He, who wanted always to set an example to others in whatever undertaking, did not flinch from the trade of executioner. It was essential to him to know the whole truth, without disguise or embroidery." Maybe; but "setting an example to

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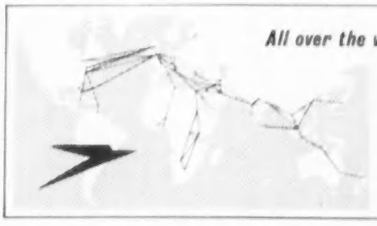

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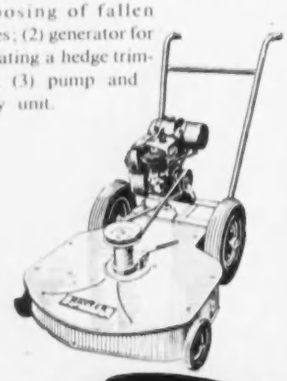

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MARCH

The Turncoats

THE BOAT RACE, which will soon impend, is a severely masculine event. This year—unless something entirely unexpected happens—not only all the oarsmen but both the coxswains will be male. The numerous descriptions of the contest will be written or broadcast by men, and among the umpires, time-keepers, raftsmen, swan-uppers and other minor characters in the great drama it is doubtful if the gentler sex will be represented at all.

Ladies resent anything which can be called a "male preserve" and generally overrun or undermine it in the end. Yet it is not altogether surprising that they have shown less initiative than usual in this context. Apart from a minority whose academic connection with one seat of learning or the other commits their loyalties in advance, many ladies can remember a period in their youth when they were Oxford one year and Cambridge the next, according to which young gentleman they happened to be in love with at the time.

It takes more than so trivial a readjustment of outlook to give a lady a bad conscience, to make her feel a renegade; and there are, of course, other factors—such as the difficulty of preventing their knees turning bright pink in cold weather—which underlie the sex's disinclination to infiltrate into the Boat Race. But it does, all the same, seem a little odd that they should have left it alone for so long . . .

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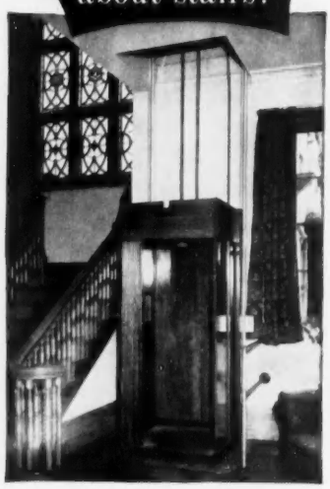

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REVIEWS by HOWARD SPRING—*continued*

"others" is not necessarily a laudable activity, and can easily be overdone. Peter had a way of overdoing it in many directions. He certainly set a fine example of how to use poor people as though they were dogs or asses. The workers in the shipyards at Voronezh were paid nothing. It was for an English engineer, Perry, to suggest that they might be given a halfpenny a day. He was told by the Grand Admiral Apraxin: "It is unheard of for the Tsar's Treasury to pay people called up to carry out certain work: there are enough sticks in Russia to thrash those who refuse to do it."

This suggests that what goes on in "labour camps" to-day is not specifically Communist, but simply Russian. Indeed, all through the book little things crop up which make one think that if, instead of Communism, capitalism had captured in Russia an unchallenged supremacy, things would not be much different.

FAMILY COMPLEXITIES

For a poor person to become anything was a matter of royal caprice. Granted that, the sky was the limit. The stable-boy Menshikov became a prince, and one of Menshikov's mistresses, a nameless girl who followed the camps, became Peter's second wife and was crowned Tsaritsa. Even after that, she couldn't "go straight" but deceived him with William Mons, whose famous sister, Anna Mons, an inn-keeper's daughter, had long ago given Peter the opportunity to be unfaithful to his first wife. And that first wife, shut up somewhere in a nunnery, found the bars wide enough to let Cupid in. Indeed, an *Almanach de Gotha* of the illegitimacies of this time would make fascinating if complicated reading.

On his death bed Peter was writing some stuff concerning the sale of fish-glue. Nothing was too small to escape his personal attention—nothing, save contributing a little to giving his subject-millions life instead of death.

LOVE FOR A RIVER

The Helford River is not much of a river geographically—a tidal creek with a few trickles draining the circumjacent meadow land and moor and woods. But the Pharpar and Abana that one has lived with are always better than all the waters of Israel, and Lady Vyvyan, who has known many great rivers and written about them, has never written with more affection and understanding than she does of this bit of Cornish water. Indeed, in *The Helford River* (Peter Owen, 16s.) she is so concerned with what the river has been to her and her family that she robs it of its moment of international significance, when the tanks that had been assembling in the woods rumbled down the roads that had been cut for them to embark in the Helford for their part in the most famous amphibian invasion of history.

But it is not of such things that Lady Vyvyan chooses to write. Living for many years in one of the noble houses on the south bank of the river, she unfolds here a twofold theme: the losing battle that landowners wage in trying to preserve such property unspoiled, and the river as what one may quite accurately call a means of grace. It is from this latter point of view that her book derives its especial value, for alas! it is increasingly necessary to emphasise—and never more than now when so much is nationally "protected"—that wood and water and moorland and unsullied air, and the things that live therein, are literally as important to man's well-being as food and drink. "The thirst that from the soul doth rise doth ask a drink divine," and here we may read how one initiate drank deeply and was satisfied. The Helford River is her text: her theme is universal.

LIFE IN MOROCCO

Miss Marvine Howe's book *One Woman's Morocco* (Arthur Barker, 21s.) gives an account of what the author saw when she lived in the country as governess, journalist and employee of Radio Maroc. She went there in 1950 and remained till Sultan Mohammed V and members of his family were deposed. Then she returned to America to proclaim her belief that the well-being of Morocco depends on the return of the Sultan and his heir.

I do not know enough about Morocco to be able to form an opinion as to whether she is right or wrong. The book would have been improved by an historical introduction. As it is, we are planted straight into the typically modern situation: an ancient and undeveloped country confronted simultaneously with its colonisers and with American technical invasion. There were, when Miss Howe was there, 12,000 Americans in the country. She herself was not considered American, since she worked for a small wage and "owned no car, no refrigerator, no washing machine." The Americans had a disturbing effect. Their luxury "did not make for happy relations with the local inhabitants." But there it is. "Peanut butter, frozen foods, marshmallows, jello, pastry mixes, etc." may seem odd ingredients of international complication, but Miss Howe assures us that they are. Her book is lively and readable, but one has an impression of conclusions arrived at rather from personal feelings than from an objective study of the whole matter.

COUNTRYSIDE VIGNETTES

ANDREW YOUNG'S *A Prospect of Britain* (Hutchinson, 16s.) is a collection of short sketches of what Dr. Young, who is a botanist as well as a poet, considers some of the significant features of the British countryside.

In his forty chapters, the subjects of which range from the Scilly Islands to the Orkneys and the Hebrides, he shows both learning and discrimination as well as the poet's gifts of discernment and of visual wonder. His *Prospect of Britain*, having no consecutive argument, is very much a book for dipping into and the more the reader knows of his own country the more richly will he be rewarded.

Dr. Young seems particularly at home in the West Country and the Highlands of Scotland. The prose of these short essays is simple and unpretentious; the literary and historical allusions always apt and illuminating. As a sample one cannot do better than take the final chapter headed *Persephone*.

The book is delightfully illustrated with a number of full-page photographs taken by Mr. Allan Cash, among them a particularly attractive view of King's College, Cambridge, showing the Chapel and Gibbs Building beyond a foreground of daffodils on the river bank.

E. B.

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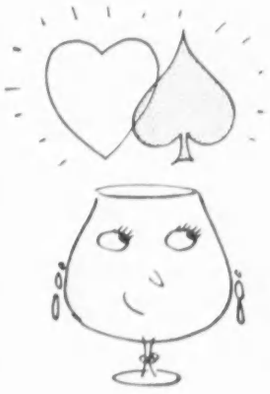

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SPRING FASHIONS

This suit in clerical grey worsted features an easy waistline and the high buttoning that is the leading style for the spring tailor-mades. The jacket is braided all round and the skirt is straight (Harvey Nichols)

Especially designed for the larger sizes, the dress below is in grey blue silk printed with cornflower blue, cream and sepia flowers and foliage. It shows the beltless long bodice (Marshall and Snelgrove. Straw hat by D. Carlton)

A tailored jacket of milk-white shantung goes over a matching sheath dress that is beltless and has a low wedge-shaped neckline and short sleeves cut in one with the bodice. The top coat, in the same shade of bouclé tweed, is collarless and has bands of ribbed knitting inserted down both fronts (Debenham and Freebody)

Photographs by COUNTRY LIFE *Studio*

WITH the displays held by the stores, the fashion picture for next spring and summer is completed. At these displays clothes imported or adapted from the French and Italian couturier collections appear alongside the latest designs from the model wholesalers of this country; so they contain a comprehensive summary of current styles.

The hats once more have perhaps come in for the most comment, and they certainly set the whole tone of fashion. They are larger and intensely feminine: fragile toques of folded pastel tulle with a nodding flower, large mushrooms composed of white or fondant pink organza roses and their green leaves, or folded chiffon toques with many petalled organza flowers laid round the deep sides—all of them very becoming. Equally flattering are the brimmed hats of medium proportions that have soft shallow crowns of several layers of chiffon and brims entirely made of flower petals and the shady hats of fine straw with wide turn-down brims and decorated by a simple ribbon band.

Topcoats are generally straight, when they are tweed and pale-coloured, often milk-white or beige, or they can be really vivid, red or green. Town coats in black, grey or navy are either straight again or have semi-fitted waistlines and gentle gores in the skirts. Collars are either non-existent or wide and flat. Suits, whether in pastel tweed or in a smooth dark woollen, show shorter jackets that button high with tubular skirts. Simple sleeveless sheath dresses with matching tailored jackets or boleros jutting out above the natural waistline appear everywhere in woollen worsted, printed silk, plain and printed shantung or embroidered linen.

Excellent ideas enliven the large collection of separates assembled in the budget shop at Debenham and Freebody. There are supple medium-weight speckled tweed skirts that have matching jumpers, so that together the twosome makes a smart frock, while the skirt on its own can be worn with any casual thick-knit sweater. The tweed jumpers are collarless and plainly cut and have bracelet-length sleeves, and the skirts are wide with unpressed pleats set into a belt. Another range is in plain fine wool with the bodices low-cut to a wedge in front and bordered with a flat bow of the fabric. Taffeta skirts again are pleated direct to the waistband. A gored cotton skirt is printed in a bold design of sunflowers taken from the famous van Gogh painting and would be splendid to take on a southern trip. So would a milk-white bouclé tweed coat that is decorated with narrow bands of ribbed wool that looks hand-knitted. There are as well some charming Handmacher tweed suits in pastel pinks, blues and green, as well as milk whites. These are a charming series of young-looking suits with short jackets that button to the throat and pockets with narrow flaps on the short basques. A fresh-looking cotton evening dress is rose-printed on white and has a stole to match, lined with rose red.

For summer sports the new man-made fibres are particularly successful. A tennis dress in Terylene with a smart

striped blazer in cotton features the moulded torso with gores below. A shantung dress printed with lilies-of-the-valley in a green, white and brown mixture is designed for the small woman and has a fan of pleats inserted in the centre back. Sleeveless cotton dresses in dark blends of colours with gored skirts and boleros to match make an excellent design for the older larger woman; so does an embroidered linen with flowing gores.

THE orthodox suit colours are chosen for a group of tailored suits in the Harvey Nichols collection in sleek worsteds and baratheas, that is black, a dark rich navy and dark clerical grey. The jackets are stiffened slightly under flapped pockets placed in front on the basque, while shoulders are narrow and unpadded. Many of the smartest of these suits are braided all round with a narrow black soutache braid. The paler tones of French grey and beige look smart for the dress and jacket combination, and for these very soft supple woollens are chosen. The dresses are beltless and moulded with short sleeves or camisole tops, the jackets being straighter than those belonging to the smooth dark cloths, even when they are fitted, while others are dead straight, when they are lined with a printed surah silk which appears again on turnback cuffs to the bracelet-length sleeves.

For the tailored suits in the first category there are tailored shirts, blouses and waistcoats. Long-sleeved shirts look very smart in a cotton satin that is woven in deepish colours such as raspberry pink, cornflower blue, jade green and then boldly striped with white. From Switzerland there are crisp little waistcoats in white piqué and embroidered cotton, white motifs on a beige ground. These fit close up to the neck, are snug at the waist and make a particularly good line for the straight skirts, which are universal with the dark smooth tailor-mades. Shantung blouses in the same strong colours that are used for the cotton satins are made with pin-tucked fronts and either sleeveless or long-sleeved.

There are so few black dresses in the shows that when one does appear it is a dramatic foil to the faint pinks and mushroom tones. There is an elegant black surah silk in the French Room at Harrods draped across in front with side drapery caught by two limp bows. This has a V neckline back and front and two-inch sleeves and it is shown under an ivory facecloth coat that has a flat cape collar spreading over the shoulders and almost reaching the waist. A crêpe summer dress is patterned with clusters of deep blue blossom that well cover the white ground. It is made with a deep swathed belt of pale blue silk, a slender skirt and three-quarter sleeves and is shown with a deep folded toque of vivid blue tulle. Among a group of short evening dresses in taffeta and lace or brocade, a chine taffeta in a bronze and gold flowery pattern showed an interesting treatment of the wide skirt with one end of a huge bow slanting across the front. A sheath dress of shell-pink guipure lace achieved a high-waisted Empire look as it had a deep waistband of pale pink chiffon that folded over the midriff. The ends of this chiffon waistband were accordion-pleated and hung to the narrow hem. A slate blue lace was a lovely colour, and the lightness of the pattern was attractive. Medallions of fragile lace were placed at widely spaced intervals on the net ground and the bell skirt was made up over taffeta of the same shade with a huge bow of taffeta set low down in front. A black lace was caught under the bust with a flat bow of ribbon, a line that is very prevalent.

There are many novelties to look out for in the accessory departments of the stores. The corselettes and belts designed by Dior are constructed on a revolutionary principle, with gussets, shaped to slant round from the back to the front, moulding the waist and hips so that the figure attains good proportions for the sheath silhouette. Bras are lengthened to the waist or even longer until they make a small fitted basque and are then named bustiers. They are strapless and made from lace and light elasticised nylon, intended for wearing for evening. Kayser Bondor's circular stiffened waist petticoats made from white cotton printed with large pink Bourbon roses are given a plastic finish to stiffen them. Housecoats in white Terylene organza are quite entrancing, being printed with pompon roses and ruffled all round. A new Kangol beret has four stitched creases converging on the centre and a peak.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

Brown cape leather gloves lined and trimmed with brown and white pin-striped nylon (I. and R. Morley). Llasa calf with a grained surface is used for the strapped shoes on the right which are maple brown saddle-stitched with black (Russell and Bromley)

(*Right*) A full-length straight-cut coat in a wide ribbed corduroy comes in a mellow green-grey shade and has nicked turn-back cuffs (Fenwicks)

This two-piece is in rose-coloured double-knit wool jersey shaped on moulded lines. The short-sleeved dress is close to the throat and is seamed to make a sweater bodice. The three-quarter coat has flapped pockets set in at the same level (Marshall and Snelgrove)

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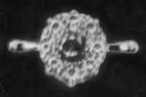
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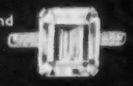
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See also Auctions column Supplement 15

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